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Sino-Japanese Ties Deemed 'Vital' for ASEAN

BK0910012592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
9 Oct 92 p 7

[Text] The post-Cold War power structure makes sustained peace between China and Japan vital to the security of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), leading scholars said yesterday.

"The ASEAN community and Southeast Asia cannot be secure within a turbulent and threatening East Asia ... We must actively work towards and contribute to make sure that the present peace is strengthened," said Dr Noordin Sopiee, the chairman of ASEAN-ISIS (Institute of Strategic and International Studies).

Singapore International Foundation director Prof Chan Heng Chee said the global redistribution of power would see Japan and China "emerge as the leading Asian players and possibly latent rivals".

"ASEAN's main political and security challenge will be to ensure that the new power equation arrived at is constructive and maximises the prospects of peace and stability," said Prof Chan.

Both political scientists stressed that these were their personal points of view.

The two spearheaded a discussion on the "potentials and proposals in the political and security dimension" as part of the "First ASEAN Congress" organised by ASEAN-ISIS on the 25th anniversary of the six-nation grouping.

The congress, opened by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, continues until tomorrow, with today's sessions to deal with the economic dimension, and questions of the environment, human rights and democracy. Dr Sopiee's formula for strengthening peace in East Asia calls for a defusion of problems in the South China Sea and the establishment of what he called a zone of peace, independence, prosperity and cooperation.

He said there were increasing levels of "militarisation" in the South China Sea by claimants and "provocative actions" by China in particular.

Six countries—China, Vietnam, Taiwan, Brunei, Malaysia and the Philippines—claim all or part of the Spratly Islands straddling a strategic sea lane between the Pacific and Indian oceans.

China in February issued a law reaffirming its sovereignty over the South China Sea. In May, it granted an American company exploration rights in an area believed rich in oil and other minerals—and claimed by Vietnam as part of its continental shelf.

China planted a territory marker on a reef on June 4 and on July 22 it announced restrictions on fishing in Chinese "offshore" waters, including the South China Sea.

Dr Sopiee said the ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea issued at about that time helped ease tensions there. But arguing that China remains a "worrisome element", he put forward a fourpoint proposal for participation by all claimants.

Notably, he called for a "declaration of non-aggression and peaceful settlement of disputes" which he said would "subject China to a more rigorous moderating regime".

He also proposed "immediate cessation" of further military build-ups or "provocative active activities". In addition he called for a stop to "farming out" of disputed areas for exploration by outsiders, and urged cooperation among littoral states to "enhance confidence" and "facilitate management" of various issues.

In arguing for a zone of peace, independence, prosperity and cooperation in East Asia, Dr Sopiee stressed that settlement of the Korean issue and the ensurance of "the most productive relationship" between China and Japan were important to ASEAN.

"A legitimate place must be found for China and for Japan within an East Asian framework, very much in the same way that such a place has been found for Germany within the framework of an integrated and peaceful western Europe."

Regional Leaders View ASEAN's Burma Policy

BK1110010592 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 11 Oct 92 pp 1,3

[Text] The Association of Southeast Asian Nations should take a stand on Burma to make itself "relevant" according to political scientist M.R. Sukhumphan Pariphat.

While acknowledging that "non-intervention" is a principle in the conduct of international relations, the outspoken political scientist said yesterday that ASEAN should take a stand on human rights, the environment and democracy.

M.R. Sukhumphan was speaking at a session entitled "ASEAN; the Next Generation—Prospects and Challenges."

Singapore Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng joined pressure at the congress for Thailand to take the lead in pressing for the return of democracy in Burma, AFP reports.

Indonesia's former foreign minister, Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, agreed Thailand should assume a lead role as it best knows Burmese thinking, but conceded that knowing "how it should be done will not be easy".

"ASEAN has to be very careful in conveying its message. The kind of regime Burma has may not take kindly advice from outside," he said.

The three men's comments came in the final session of the First ASEAN Congress organised by ASEAN-ISIS (Institute of Strategic and International Studies), on the occasion of the six nation grouping's 25th anniversary.

M.R. Sukhumphan told the session:

"To make ASEAN relevant, ASEAN must choose to make its stand on many questions which it has not touched upon before—the questions of human rights, the environment and democracy."

M.R. Sukhumphan is director of ISIS-Thailand and associate professor at Chulalongkon University.

He said he is not advocating that ASEAN faces such issues in response to pressure from the other parts of the world.

"I am advocating that we take a stand simply because we need to take a stand for our own regional and domestic reasons."

M.R. Sukhumphan said that if someone put a gun to head and asked how they should start to make ASEAN relevant for the next decade or two, he would say.

"Start somewhere like Myanmar [Burma]... having a stand concerning Myanmar."

He defines "relevance" as one of the four challenges for ASEAN. The other challenges concern "geo-economics", "success" and "indifference".

His remarks on Burma drew strong support from two ASEAN participants at a subsequent off-the-record discussion.

Both said they favour ASEAN adopting a stand on the issue but that as the front-line state, Thailand should take the lead.

Mr Wong said there is still no consensus on how to deal with Burma but all six ASEAN members are prepared to discuss it together and had collectively met Burmese Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw outside a recent meeting of the UN General Assembly.

"ASEAN has also conveyed strong sentiments when expressing its views about what it has heard is happening in Burma," Mr Wong said. It was not discussed with the minister whether or not democracy is being restored quickly enough.

"We, being Asians, just listened to him and we will wait to see what happens next," he said.

There is no formal ASEAN position on Burma, although Thailand and some other member states uphold the principle of "constructive engagement". The argument is that engagement rather than isolation would persuade the ruling military junta—the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC)—to reform.

SLORC came to power after hundreds of pro-democracy demonstrators were killed in Rangoon in the summer of 1988. Hundreds of political prisoners are still being held—including Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for three years.

Power is yet to be transferred to parliamentary representatives elected in May 1990 although the leadership has said it will draft a new constitution after a national convention in January.

On the challenge of "geo-economics", M.R. Sukhumphan pointed to the emergence of trade blocs in Europe and America, the possibility of development resources being diverted to the states of the former Soviet Union and conflicts over natural resources such as that in the South China Sea.

He also cited Thailand's "attraction to her neighbours on mainland South East Asia"—an apparent reference to the Indochinese countries of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

On the challenge of "success", resulting from the "too great successes" of individual member states.

He cited Thailand's economic performance, Singapore's success as a regional centre and Malaysia's success as "a prophet of the South".

On the challenge of "indifference", M.R. Sukhumphan said ASEAN's success story was due to the "growing multiplicity of transitional linkages among the member countries' existing elites".

He expects these linkages to be continued and increase over time.

His warning.

"Unless a policy of deliberate cultivation of regional consciousness is formulated and pursued in all the ASEAN countries simultaneously, expansion of the members' elites, ipso facto, is likely to lead to a dilution of the elite's commitment to ASEAN."

On the challenge of "relevance", he said ASEAN had coped with a national, regional and international "security threatened environment". But progress in social and economic development is raising domestic issues that question ASEAN's relevance.

He listed these issues as:

- Equity and the problem of sharing the benefits of growth with rural villagers;
- The problem of striking a balance between development and environmental protection;
- The question of ensuring co-existence between traditional values and modern materialism;
- Ensuring a balance between order and freedom; and
- Ensuring justice, including human rights and freedom of political choice.

Japan

Watanabe Comments on Tariffication 'Scheme'

OW1610051492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT
16 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Japan cannot continue rejecting a proposed comprehensive tariffication scheme in a bid to keep its rice market closed, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe suggested Friday.

Watanabe said at a press conference, "We will have to make a decision some day. The point is whether our counterparts would accept a 'no'."

There is speculation that pressure on Japan to open its rice market will increase if the United States and the European Community (EC) compromise on an agricultural dispute which has stalled the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), analysts said.

Some voiced doubts, however, about whether any political decision can be made to open the rice market as political turmoil continues in the wake of the resignation of ruling party kingpin Shin Kanemaru from the House of Representatives.

Watanabe said in this regard, "There may be nothing impossible if you try to do."

On the prospects for a compromise between the U.S. and EC during a weekend trade ministers' meeting of four major economies in Toronto and a U.S.-EC ministerial meeting expected next week, Watanabe said, "In fact, we don't know if (the dispute) is settled. France is also going to hold an election."

U.S.'s Greenspan on Taming of Inflation Worldwide

OW1410070092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0556 GMT
14 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—U.S. Federal Reserve board chairman Alan Greenspan on Wednesday hailed the apparent victory of the world's central banks over inflation, but warned against resulting asset deflation.

"The true underlying rate of inflation in today's world may not be far from what I would call price stability," Greenspan said in a speech to Japanese bankers.

Greenspan stressed the importance of keeping inflation tamed, saying, "Price stability contributes to financial stability and is the most important contribution that central bankers can make to the general welfare."

The Fed chairman said business and financial markets are tailoring their operations to "an environment of lower inflation," which he says is a process that entails some risks and pains.

"The decline in inflation has been associated with substantial declines in the prices of some real assets, with consequent implications for financial institutions."

"Bankers on both sides of the Pacific...do not need to be reminded of problems associated with making loans for highly leveraged commercial or residential real estate on the expectation that continuously rising asset prices would reduce the leverage and improve the security of these loans over time."

Greenspan also saw some dangers to financial stability in the proliferation of offshore banking centers and the growing participation of nonbank financial institutions in the global markets for financial derivatives.

"The growth of banking in offshore centers suggests that banking is a very mobile industry and that banks and their customers will find perfectly legal ways to avoid the costs of certain kinds of regulations by shifting the booking of their transactions, where such booking shifts need not result in any change in the particular bank with whom they are dealing."

"The migration of banking to offshore centers in response to monetary policy measures is a serious concern," he said.

Noting that "a significant number of participants in the market for financial derivatives are unregulated non-bank financial institutions," he warned, "a failure by one of these institutions to perform on its contractual obligations could impose serious losses on customers and could result in serious systemic problems."

The Fed chief also emphasized the importance of banking deregulation in Japan.

"The progress toward deregulated interest rates in Japan...should remove the incentive for Japanese banks to book business offshore and is likely to reduce the reported size of Japanese banks in offshore markets."

"Market-determined interest rates also improve the efficiency of the Japanese financial system in responding to price signals in the allocation of capital," he said.

Tokyo Trade Officials 'Cool' to U.S. Election

OW1610012892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0107 GMT
16 Oct 92

[By Keiko Tatsuta]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Japanese trade negotiators appear cool in the face of mounting concern that trade friction between Japan and the United States might intensify after the November 3 U.S. presidential election.

As domestic problems are the top priority in the campaign, both President George Bush and Democratic challenger Bill Clinton apparently are putting aside trade

issues with Japan during their quest for the White House, as is Independent candidate Ross Perot.

Some Japanese trade officials, however, are concerned over the potential for increased criticism from U.S. industries about restrictions in the Japanese market because of the widening bilateral trade gap, regardless of who wins the race.

Vice International Trade and Industry Minister Yuji Tanahashi expressed confidence that either a Republican or Democratic administration would stick to the policy of pursuing free trade.

"I believe the U.S. Administration has a good sense," he said.

While acknowledging a recent upward trend in the U.S. trade deficit with Japan, Tanahashi said, "We have been and will be devoting all our efforts (to correct the trade imbalance)."

He also said that Japan will at the same time continue to urge the United States to make further efforts to penetrate the Japanese market.

The U.S. trade deficit with Japan fell to 41.1 billion dollars in 1990 after peaking at 56.3 billion dollars in 1987, according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

Last year, however, it bounced up to 43.3 billion dollars, accounting for 66 percent of the entire U.S. trade deficit.

The U.S. ran a 25.8 billion dollar trade deficit with Japan from January to July this year, up 12.9 percent from a year earlier.

A senior MITI official, who asked not to be named, said the overall U.S. balance of trade could nearly break even if earnings by American multinational enterprises operating abroad and earnings from patent fees were added to the trade figures.

While the economic slowdown both in Japan and the U.S. remains severe, U.S. productivity has steadily recovered and competitiveness in the U.S. auto industry has improved, said Nobuyori Kodaira, director of MITI's Americas Division.

A U.S. administration headed by either Republican Bush or Democrat Clinton will move to improve foreign relations once it could well manage domestic problems, Kodaira said in an interview.

He maintained that his ministry is ready to deal with any development in Japan-U.S. trade relations, saying, "A change of administration will not lead to a complete change in its policies."

MITI's Automobile Division Director Hirokazu Hayashi makes a similar assessment of the post-election scenario, saying that basic U.S. policy lines are unlikely to change.

"The range of economic policies (the U.S. Administration can take) are limited," Hayashi said.

An official in MITI's Industrial Electronics Division, which is in charge of semiconductor trade, said, "Trade issues like market access for foreign chips are not subject to political changes."

The foreign microchip market share in Japan rose 1.3 percentage points in the second quarter from the previous quarter to 17.9 percent, but is unlikely to reach a target of 20 percent this year.

The renewed Japan-U.S. chip trade pact, reached in August last year, provides that foreign chip makers can expect a share of more than 20 percent of the Japanese market by the end of this year.

The MITI official said, however, the share of foreign microchips in the Japanese market has increased and Japan-U.S. business relations have improved as a result of enduring efforts by companies and are sound from a long-term perspective.

Even if the share does not reach 20 percent this year, he said, "We will continue making every effort in line with the spirit of the pact for the time being." He dismissed the possibility a new U.S. Administration would push for a new target for 1993 and beyond.

Apart from concerns that a Clinton administration would be protectionist, Hayashi said he does not expect it to take an isolationist policy.

He said, however, that there is always a risk that U.S. criticism of Japan's trade surplus could escalate, focusing on mainstay exports such as automobiles and electronic parts, whoever wins the presidency.

Another MITI official suggested, on condition of anonymity, that the Democrat-dominated U.S. Congress would be more receptive to trade legislation to be proposed by a Democratic administration than those backed by the Bush administration.

Another government official painted a bleak picture of Japan-U.S. relations, saying that if Clinton wins the election, the Congress may again extend the President's "fast-track" authority for trade negotiations on a leave-it-or-take-it basis to let the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks continue.

Then the U.S. would push Japan to further open its market on a bilateral basis, the official predicted.

Tokyo Obtains Files on KAL Downing From Canada

*OW1610120192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1152 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—The Japanese Government has received copies of Russian files on the 1983

downing of a South Korean airliner from the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said Friday.

The copies were obtained from Canadian Ambassador to Russia Michael Bell, who received the documents as the representative of the Ottawa-based international civil aviation organization, the officials said.

On Wednesday, Russian President Boris Yeltsin handed copies to officials of South Korea and the United States.

The documents include transcripts of the contents of the black box flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder, conversations between the plane's crew and ground control, as well as reports to the then Soviet Government and findings of experts investigating the incident.

The Korean Airlines Boeing 747, en route from Anchorage to Seoul, was shot down by a Soviet fighter on September 1, 1983, after it strayed into Soviet airspace.

The attack killed all 269 passengers and crew members on board, of whom 109 were South Korean, 62 American, and 28 Japanese.

Emperor's Beijing Speech Not To Include 'Apology'

*OW1610061292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0602 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Asians victimized by the Japanese Imperial Army before and during World War II, especially Chinese and Koreans, will be closely watching remarks by Japan's Emperor Akihito at a banquet in the Chinese capital of Beijing on Friday, October 23.

They are expecting an apology from the emperor for Japan's wartime actions committed in the name of his late father, Emperor Hirohito, posthumously called Emperor Showa.

Japanese sources say, however, that no outright apology will be forthcoming, although 94 percent of Chinese people polled by the BEIJING REVIEW magazine last month want the emperor to apologize for the aggression and Japan to compensate Chinese citizens.

In a nationwide survey conducted early this month and published by a number of Japanese newspapers, 55 percent of Japanese echoed the Chinese in saying the emperor should make an apology.

Strong opposition not only to an apology but also to the emperor's China visit itself has been voiced by conservative politicians, nationalist groups, and some intellectuals.

"If the emperor is used (for making an apology), we will take action to demand the mass resignation of the cabinet (of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa)," a leading nationalist has warned.

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko will visit China from October 23 to 28 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Tokyo and Beijing. It will be the first ever visit to China by a Japanese monarch.

The sources say the emperor will have to make an apology of some sort, and indicate that his speech will convey this through references to unhappy events brought about by Japan, calling them regrettable and saying they should never be repeated.

Emperor Showa described World War II as the "most unfortunate war which I deeply deplore" at a White House dinner hosted by President Gerald Ford on October 3, 1975.

In meeting Chinese Deputy Premier Deng Xiaoping at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on October 23, 1978, the emperor said, "There were unhappy events in the long history of Sino-Japanese relations."

Six years later on September 6, 1984, the emperor told visiting South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan, "It is indeed regrettable that there was an unfortunate past between us for a period in this century and I believe that it should not be repeated again."

Emperor Akihito used the words "unfortunate history" and "regrettable" when he met Chinese Premier Li Peng on April 13, 1989—his first encounter with a Chinese leader since he became emperor on January 7 of that year following the death of his father.

He also described the war as "extremely unfortunate" during his visit to Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia from late September to early October last year.

There will be no major deviation from this kind of wording in the emperor's speech in Beijing, the sources add. [passage omitted]

Watanabe Urges Burma To Free Aung San Suu Kyi

*OW1610085792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0832 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Japan urged Myanmar [Burma] on Friday to implement democracy and release opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi from detention, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe made the call in a meeting with Myanmar Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw, who arrived here Thursday for a three-day unofficial visit, the officials said.

U Ohn Gyaw is in Japan en route home from New York, where he attended the opening of the United Nations' 47th General Assembly meeting.

In the talks, Watanabe called on the military junta in Myanmar to restore democracy and respect the results of the May 1990 elections, officials said.

Watanabe told U Ohn Gyaw that the junta's refusal of Aung San Suu Kyi's release may be seen in the international community as a "symbol" of the state of democracy in Myanmar.

Officials said U Ohn Gyaw did not have time to reply to the issue of Aung San Suu Kyi's detention. Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, was placed under house arrest after her party won the 1990 elections.

In his speech to the UN General Assembly session earlier this month, the Myanmar foreign minister said that the junta planned to release from detention individuals "who no longer pose a threat to the security of the country."

Watanabe told U Ohn Gyaw that while the Myanmar Government may fear Aung San Suu Kyi's release would create unrest, the international community considers the matter an important one.

Officials quoted U Ohn Gyaw as outlining the military regime's plans to establish a multiparty democratic state.

The plans include suspending military operations against ethnic rebels, reopening universities, revoking martial law, and establishing a new ministry to deal with minorities and reconstruction in war-scarred border areas.

The junta has announced that a convention would meet by January 10 to lay down the principles for a new constitution.

Officials said the convention would discuss "basic principles" for drafting a new constitution and would include representatives of political parties, including winners of the previous elections.

After the convention a new constitution would be drafted and soon after its adoption a new government would take over, the officials said.

But the junta has indicated that the Armed Forces will continue to play a dominant role in national politics.

Watanabe was quoted as saying Myanmar's democratization is needed to facilitate the country's development for the sake of future generations.

U Ohn Gyaw told Watanabe that Myanmar has been subjected to undue and unwarranted criticism over its record on human rights.

Watanabe replied that if Myanmar is indeed paying attention to its human rights record, it should take more active steps to argue its point to the outside world, officials said.

Japan pursues what it calls "quiet diplomacy" with Myanmar, saying keeping open channels of communication with the junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council, is a more effective way of working for a restoration of democracy there.

Japan suspended its aid to Myanmar in 1988, when the military was cracking down on pro-democracy demonstrators in Yangon [Rangoon]. Japan has since resumed work on projects to which it was already committed.

Tokyo has offered no new pledges of development assistance since suspending aid to the country.

Officials said U Ohn Gyaw completely denied reports that Myanmar has given China permission to utilize a naval base on an Andaman Sea island opposite an Indian base on another island.

Miyazawa Offers To Help Malaysia 'Look East'

OW1610100592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0958 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa offered Friday to help Malaysia promote its "look East" policy of learning from Japan's successes, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

Miyazawa told Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi Japan will do its best to respond to his requests to host more Malaysian students and researchers, and to dispatch more Japanese language teachers to Malaysia, the official said.

The official said the number of Malaysian students to Japan already tops that of other southeast Asian nations at over 1,000.

Miyazawa also said he would do what he could to expand economic assistance to Malaysia, the official said.

Abdullah was quoted as telling Miyazawa that the "look East" policy and Japanese investment were major factors in promoting the development of his country.

Abdullah did not mention his government's request that Japan avoid the Malacca Straits when it transports plutonium home from Europe, the official said.

The foreign minister arrived in Japan Wednesday on an informal four-day visit after an official visit to China.

In the 40-minute courtesy call at Miyazawa's official residence, Abdullah said that China apparently wishes to maintain a peaceful environment so it can devote attention to economic development.

Malaysia and China are among the six countries that have conflicting claims to the Spratly islands, a South China Sea chain of mostly uninhabited islands thought to be rich in oil reserves.

Tension over the islands heightened earlier this year when China said it was prepared to enforce its claims militarily, and showed interest in acquiring an aircraft carrier.

Malaysia Repeats Concerns Over Plutonium Shipment

*OW1610122792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1128 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi said Friday he expects Japan to understand Malaysia's concerns over the possible passage of a Japanese freighter carrying plutonium through the Strait of Malacca.

Abdullah told a press conference he wants to trust the Japanese Government's assertion "all safety precautions will be taken" for the shipment.

He quoted Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe as saying in a meeting earlier in the day the Japanese Government understands Malaysian concerns and all safety measures will be taken to make the voyage secure.

Abdullah did not elaborate on whether Japan hinted at a possibility the ship may take a different course to avoid using the strait.

Malaysia has repeatedly expressed worries over the possible passage near its territorial waters of the 4,800-ton Akatsuki Maru, which is slated to bring a shipment of highly radioactive reprocessed plutonium home from France later this year.

Malaysia and Indonesia have banned the ship from entering their territorial waters but cannot prevent it from plying international waters in the narrow 600-kilometer-long strait between peninsular Malaysia and the Indonesian island of Sumatra.

The strait is one of several possible routes for the ship, but the route remains a tightly guarded secret for security reasons.

Japan plans to ship home about 30 tons of reprocessed plutonium from France and Britain over the next two decades as fuel for fast-breeder nuclear reactors.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed is also expected to voice his country's concern over the plutonium shipment in a meeting with Japanese counterpart Kiichi Miyazawa scheduled for next Tuesday during a weeklong private trip to Japan.

On economic issues, Abdullah said the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) "officials are now considering the various modalities of (the proposed) East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) and working out a plan of action."

He said, "Japan has been continuously interested in the EAEC" but will only fix its attitude toward it after ASEAN sets details.

Mahathir first suggested the EAEC in late 1990. Japan, wary of upsetting the United States, which strongly opposes the idea, is yet to take a public stand on the proposal.

Kanemaru's Indictment for Tax Evasion Urged

*OW1610053792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0526 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—A group of seven opposition Diet members handed prosecutors a written demand Friday to indict retired political power broker Shin Kanemaru and about 60 of his unidentified followers for infringing income tax laws.

The delegation from the Social Democratic Party (SDP) filed the request calling on prosecutors to clarify whether the 500 million yen Kanemaru received from the scandal-ridden Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin delivery firm in 1990 constituted an unsolicited donation, a form of remuneration which should be subject to tax, or was a hidden political donation.

At an August 27 press conference Kanemaru admitted the receipt of the 500 million yen from the defunct delivery firm and announced his resignation as LDP vice president. Amid mounting public outcries against his involvement in the scandal, he announced his resignation from the Diet on Wednesday.

Kanemaru reportedly distributed the 500 million yen to more than 60 members of the LDP's largest faction, which he headed. He gave up his post as head of the faction on resigning from the Diet.

But the SDP and members of other opposition parties have called on Kanemaru to clarify how he distributed the money, saying there is a possibility the recipients may be open to charges of tax evasion.

The SDP delegation to the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors' Office was led by Torao Takazawa, who heads a party panel on political corruption.

Hata: Rivalry Intensifying in Takeshita Faction

*OW1610033992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0326 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata admitted Friday that rivalry has intensified in the most powerful faction of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to choose the successor to its outgoing leader Shin Kanemaru.

Hata told reporters after a cabinet session that faction members have conflicting views and there is "no need to rush the selection."

Kanemaru, once Japan's most powerful politician, and who headed the Takeshita faction named after former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, quit the Diet as public outrage grew over his involvement in a money scandal and his reported dealings with an organized crime figure.

Referring to opposition party moves to seek a thorough investigation of the Sagawa Kyubin scandal ahead of

debates on a supplementary budget, Hata said any attempt to delay economy-stimulating efforts will draw strong public criticism.

Group Urges Ozawa's Removal

OW1610051092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0501 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—A group in the Liberal Democratic Party's biggest faction called Friday for acting faction leader Ichiro Ozawa to quit over his handling of the scandal leading to the downfall of LDP kingmaker Shin Kanemaru, political sources said.

The anti-Ozawa group pressed its demand at the 110-member faction's emergency plenary meeting, called after faction leader Kanemaru announced his resignation Wednesday from the House of Representatives over the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money scandal.

Kanemaru, who resigned as head of the faction also Wednesday, admitted on August 27 he had received 500 million yen in illegal political donations from the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co.

The anti-Ozawa group includes LDP Diet Policy Affairs Committee Chairman Seiroku Kajiyama, former Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and former LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi.

Members of the group reportedly said at the meeting that the current faction leadership under Ozawa should resign en masse.

The group recommended that Obuchi take over the faction's chairmanship, according to sources with access to the ongoing meeting.

Ozawa is considered as Kanemaru's heir apparent, while Obuchi is seen as the right-hand man of former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita who founded the faction in 1987.

The Ozawa-led group agreed with its opponents that the faction should choose a new leader before the start of the extraordinary Diet session expected to convene October 30, the sources said.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, one of senior faction members, hinted at a news conference Friday that he favors a collective leadership to run the Takeshita faction.

Faction sources said pro- and anti-Ozawa groups have agreed to avoid a split of the Takeshita faction.

The sources suggested that the Ozawa group may agree to have Obuchi serve as head of the faction as a figure-head while Ozawa continues to keep the post of acting leader.

Faction on Naming Kanemaru Successor

OW1610080792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0756 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 16 KYODO—Members of the largest faction in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) agreed Friday to choose a faction leader to replace Shin Kanemaru before the extraordinary session of the Diet, which is expected to convene on October 30.

Kanemaru, 78, who had been the party's main power broker, resigned from the Diet on Wednesday amid mounting public criticism of his involvement in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Money scandal. He also quit as chairman of the faction.

In an emergency closed-door session lasting two and a half hours, the faction agreed to avoid a rift and maintain unity among the 110 members of the group, which was founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, sources with access to the session said.

The current faction leaders, including its acting chairman, Ichiro Ozawa, will resign when the fresh leadership is inaugurated.

Ozawa, Kanemaru's protege, opened the meeting by explaining Kanemaru's resignation from the House of Representatives.

Feuding within the Takeshita faction over its leadership has intensified since Kanemaru stepped down, centering on Ozawa, long regarded as a favorite for the LDP presidency. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who heads his own smaller group, took office last November with the faction's backing.

Opponents of Ozawa include LDP Diet Affairs Committee Chairman Seiroku Kajiyama, former Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, and former LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi.

The sources said some members pressed Ozawa to step down as acting chairman for his poor and autocratic handling of factional affairs, which they said led to Kanemaru's resignation from the Diet.

North Korea

NODONG SINMUN Denounces U.S.-South Military Meeting

SK1610000392 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0011 GMT 15 Oct 92

[NODONG SINMUN 15 October special article: "The United States Adheres to the Policy of Strength and Confrontation on the Korean Peninsula"]

[Text] Noting that the so-called suspicion of our nuclear development still remains, at the military conferences held in Washington some time ago the U.S. and South Korean military leaders decided to resume the Team

Spirit joint military exercise next year, to postpone the second phase of the withdrawal of the U.S. Forces occupying South Korea, and to deploy the flexible rapid deterrence option forces if a crisis escalates in South Korea, before there is even an emergency on the Korean peninsula. United States' support for the South Korean puppet army's efforts to increase the information flow was also discussed.

This clearly shows that even though the United States talks about detente and peace, it constantly adheres to a policy of strength and confrontation on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. policy of confrontation is incoherent and anachronistic in view of the collapse of the Cold War, the current international trend toward peace and arms reduction, and the movement on the Korean peninsula toward detente and reconciliation.

The U.S.-South Korean military conferences held in Washington show that in spite of the changed situation, the United States is trying to maintain the Cold War by aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula and by returning the situation to the state that existed before the dialogue. The military conferences reveal again that the purpose of U.S. policy toward Korea lies not only in stifling our republic through strength by using South Korea as a stronghold but also in realizing its aggressive Asian-Pacific strategy.

To this end, the United States is trying to hold on to South Korea as its aggressive military base and to station its forces there for a long time. The United States' authorities' absurd remarks—if forces of the United States are withdrawn from South Korea, there will be a vacuum of strength provoking a new regional dispute on the Korean peninsula—are based on the U.S. policy of holding on to South Korea as its aggressive military base.

Testifying before the U.S. Senate Budget Committee in early February, U.S. Secretary of Defense Cheney said that the abrupt reduction of U.S. forces, including the U.S. forces in South Korea, may be dangerous because of regional disputes that could arise. He added that because we will try to fill the vacuum in strength caused by the withdrawal of the U.S. forces, a dispute will take place without fail.

At the same time, while reviewing U.S. military strategy for 1992, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Powell said that U.S. military strategy is changing from a world war scenario to a local war scenario. He added that among the dangers of a local war, the threat from North Korea is real but unpredictable.

The U.S. military leaders' claim that if U.S. forces are withdrawn from South Korea we will invade the South by using the vacuum of strength caused by the withdrawal of the U.S. forces are absurd. Their remarks proceed from an impure attempt to undermine our republic's peace-loving policy and to create international distrust and doubt about us. Their remarks also proceed

from the vicious inner intention to station U.S. forces in South Korea forever by using the pretext of a so-called vacuum in strength.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: If we see a change in the imperialists, it is in the method of their aggression, not in their aggressive nature.

The vacuum in strength theory that the U.S. authorities are now spreading is only a variation on the balance of power theory they pursued during the Cold War era. The military balance should be attained not by reinforcing the armed forces but by reducing them. Only then can the military balance contribute to detente and peace.

While using the balance of power theory as a pretext, the United States justified an arms race, expansion of the armed forces, and the forward deployment of U.S. forces in a bid to gain military preponderance and strategic superiority.

Whenever U.S. military leaders talk about the past situation on the Korean peninsula, they make the absurd remark that because North Korea is militarily superior to South Korea, the possibility of a southward invasion has increased. They said that a balance of power is urgently needed in order to deter the North from invading the South, and that U.S. Forces should continue to stay in South Korea until the puppet army is modernized.

The U.S. imperialists, describing the U.S. forces occupying South Korea as restraining forces, have stated that they must not withdraw from South Korea at an earlier date. This sophistry reverses black and white. Also, saying that there must be a military balance between the North and South, they have brought in large numbers of fighter-bombers, tanks, warships, helicopters, large-caliber cannon, missiles, assorted ammunition, very new bombers, and military materiel in order to strengthen the U.S. forces and the South Korean puppet forces. They have also frequently held the Team Spirit joint military exercise and various other military exercises to improve the combat capability of the U.S. forces and the puppet forces.

However, as a result of the end of the Cold War and the changes in the situation on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity, the theory of a balance of power, which the United States had advocated, has been crushed. Therefore, the pretext for continuously stationing U.S. forces in South Korea has disappeared. In particular, in the North-South agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration, the North and South promised not to fight with each other and declared before all fellow countrymen and all the people of the world that they would solve the problems of peace and reunification with the nation's united strength. The South Korean people have strongly demanded that the U.S. imperialist forces of aggression withdraw from South Korea at the earliest possible date for peace in the country and its reunification. Embarrassed by this development, the U.S. ruling class has devised a new so-called theory of a power

vacuum. This theory says that the U.S. forces' withdrawal from South Korea would leave a power vacuum there, which would foster a regional dispute on the Korean peninsula. The theory of a power vacuum is, in principle, a theory of aggression designed to keep U.S. forces stationed in South Korea on a long-term basis, continuously enforcing the policy of power confrontation.

Since the end of the Cold War, the U.S. ruling class has babbled loudly that the U.S. forces' early withdrawal from South Korea must be avoided and that U.S. forces will stay in South Korea as long as the United States wants and as long as the South Korean authorities request. This is not a coincidence.

It is no secret that even after the end of the Cold War, the U.S. imperialists have unchangingly considered the Korean peninsula a forward area in U.S. strategies for the Asia-Pacific region. The United States has considered South Korea a forward base for conquering our republic and a stronghold for holding other countries in check and therefore is trying to station U.S. forces in South Korea forever.

In their defense plan guideline, the U.S. authorities stressed a need to continue to guarantee regional security and stability by preventing the creation of a power vacuum and have chosen our republic as a major target of attack in the scenario for regional war. In this way, they disclosed an intent to aggress.

While babbling about our nonexistent plan to develop nuclear weapons, they have been kicking up unprecedented vicious antirepublic commotions. Reality shows that the theory of a power vacuum is another name for the balance of power theory. Therefore, the purposes of those two theories are identical. One difference between the two, if any, is that the balance of power theory was a pretext to justify the U.S. forces' buildup and forward deployment, designed to achieve military superiority in the Cold War era; the power vacuum theory is a mere pretext to maintain the U.S. forces and their forward deployment under the changed circumstances in the post-Cold War era.

Just like the balance of power theory, the power vacuum theory shows that the U.S. imperialists' policy toward Korea has not changed at all and that their schemes have become more cunning and shameless.

If the United States does not withdraw its forces from South Korea but continues the military buildup and war exercises under the pretext of a power vacuum, its ambition to dominate other countries and its aggressive colors will be more apparent. This will invite stronger resistance from all the Korean people, who are struggling for independence, peace, and reunification.

NODONG SINMUN Rejects South's 'Provocative' Exercise

*SK1610063092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[“NODONG SINMUN Lambastes South Korean Puppets' '92 Operation of Prevailing Over Communism”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—The “'92 Operation of Prevailing Over Communism” now being staged by the South Korean authorities is a provocative military exercise openly revealing their aggressive design on the North as its codename shows, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The analyst continues:

The South Korean authorities started this military exercise on September 12. Reportedly, they will continue air fighting and bombing rehearsals till the 24th with the mobilization of warplanes of various types under the pretext of keeping their air force in “good order” and “appraising the pilots' tactical operational techniques”.

Their powder-reeking “Operation of Prevailing Over Communism” bespeaks that they do not have the least intention to solve the question of peace and reunification in unity with the North as required by the agreement and what they seek is only to follow the U.S. policy of “showdown of strength” and “unify the country by prevailing over communism” with force of arms.

But “unification by prevailing over communism” wanted by the South Korean authorities is a foolish dream which can never be realised any time.

If they persistently seek a war adventure, going against the nation's desire for peaceful reunification, their doom will be more miserable than their predecessors'.

South Holds Exercise Near DMZ 15 Oct

*SK1610113192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[“South Korean Puppets Perpetrate Provocation in Area Near MDL”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets reinforced Armed Forces and fired bullets and shells in an area near the Demilitarized Zone along the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) in the western sector of the front in broad daylight Thursday, according to military sources.

They deployed some 20 military vehicles and hundreds of armed bandits in Paeknyon-ri and Chomwon-ri, Phaju County, South Korea, the forward area, and brought ten odd 105 mm guns to positions in Chongja-ri, Nosang-ri and Chomwon-ri, Phaju County, under our eyes.

On the other hand, they staged an exercise of dropping "commandoes" and supporting the ground attack operation of infantry units against the North by mobilizing helicopters including armed ones in Phaju and Yonchon Counties. And they fired more than 100 shells in areas near the Demilitarized Zone of the MDL.

Armed bandits of the puppet army took positions near Cho-ri, Phaju County, and Chokko-ri, Yonchon County, and perpetrated a grave military provocation by moving northward along the MDL and firing hundreds of 12.7 mm machine guns and M-16 rifles.

U.S., South Stage 'War Exercises' 13-14 Oct

*SK1610052592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are staging more vicious war exercises against the North after they announced that they would resume the Team Spirit joint military maneuvers, according to military sources.

The U.S. imperialists held a joint air war exercise in the sky above Umsong, Yaju and Paju on Oct. 14. It was intended to increase the combat capacity of Pacific-based fighters which, "in case of emergency," would fly to the Korean peninsula and, in coordination with warplanes based in South Korea, make a surprise strike at targets in the North under condition of electronic jamming.

On Oct. 13, they held a non-stop long-distance bombing exercise in which Pacific-based fighters flew to the sky above Tokjok islet, South Korea, the operational zone, and dropped bombs before returning to the base.

The South Korean puppets staged reckless air war exercises called "'92 Operation of Prevailing Over Communism" in the sky above Kongju, Umsong and Wonju on Oct. 13 and 14 with the mobilization of some 350 warplanes.

They staged a ground attack exercise against the North in the area near the Military Demarcation Line on Oct. 14 and a marine landing exercise on the West Sea off Kusan on Oct. 13.

A total of 1,300 warplanes and 380 naval vessels were mobilized in the aggressive war exercises in South Korea on Oct. 13 and 14.

NODONG SINMUN Says U.S. 'Must Stop' Cuban Economic Blockade

*SK1610054892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[“NODONG SINMUN Hits Out at U.S. Imperialists' Economic Blockade Against Cuba”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the recent adoption of the

“Torricelli Bill” on intensified economic blockade against Cuba by both houses of U.S. Congress. Branding it as a new grave criminal act to stifle Cuba economically, the analyst says: This step indicates that the anti-Cuba moves of the United States are escalating to a more grave stage with the passage of time.

The United States is trying to attain its sinister purpose with a political and diplomatic offensive, an ideological offensive and a military offensive, which are intended to overthrow Cuba advancing under the banner of socialism. But it drinks a bitter cup of defeat each time.

Raising cheers over its “victory” in the Cold War in Europe, the United States seeks to apply this method to Cuba. The new anti-Cuba campaign of the U.S., however, is destined to suffer a defeat and bankruptcy as in the past.

It is a mistake, if the United States thinks that the anachronistic outmoded policy whereby it had everything in its way with strength will work still today when the structure of confrontation has collapsed and the situation changed.

With nothing can the United States break the revolutionary stamina of the Cuban people who are building socialism, tiding over difficulties in the “special period in the peacetime”.

The United States must stop the dastardly economic blockade against Cuba at once.

KCNA Reviews 16 Oct Pyongyang Press

*SK1610062692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[Press Review]

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a report that the great leader President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], met and congratulated the participants at the meeting of teachers of the KPA military schools at all levels and a photograph they posed for with participants.

Printed in NODONG SINMUN are messages of greetings sent to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, by foreign party and state leaders and the Political Bureau of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution on the 47th founding anniversary of the WPK.

It is reported in the press that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to a teacher and pupils of the Pyongyang Tachung Senior Middle School who are devoted to education and study.

Given in the press is an account of a national seminar marking the tenth anniversary of the publication of the classical work of Comrade Kim Chong-il “The Workers’

Party of Korea is a chuche-type revolutionary party which inherited the glorious tradition of the DIU".

NODONG SINMUN recounts the story that Comrade Kim Chong-il visited several times the home town of hero Yi Su-Pok who silenced an enemy machine gun with his body during the fatherland liberation war and has made him remain in the memory of the people forever.

Appearing in papers is a message of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the WPK to the participants at an international conference supporting the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula which opened in Kathmandu.

According to the press, political parties of Zaire and Guyana signed the Pyongyang declaration and the new DPRK ambassador presented his credentials to the Queen of Denmark.

The press informs the readers that the international consultation on assurance of quality of health care which opened in Pyongyang closed on October 15 and a DPRK book, photo and handicraft exhibition was held in Russia.

The econews of the press includes reports about gathering in of rice and thrashing in the countryside and increased production of coal.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article titled "Updating Means of Education Is Important Requirement for Training Able Personnel".

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have staged military exercises against the DPRK without interruption on the ground and in the sea and air, reports NODONG SINMUN.

A NODONG SINMUN analyst lashes at the "'92 Operation of Prevailing Over Communism" now being staged by the South Korean authorities.

The press reports that the Human Rights Committee of the National Council of Christian Churches and the headquarters of All-People Struggle for the Abolition of the "National Security Law" in South Korea declared at a joint press conference that the "Case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea" is a brainchild of the "Security Planning Board" and South Korean people of various social strata called for the implementation of the North-South agreement.

In a semi-monthly review of the South Korean situation NODONG SINMUN says that the South Korean authorities are putting down the people's desire for democratic development in a bid to bridge over the crisis of their rule and prolong their dictatorship with the backing of the U.S. imperialists.

Carried in the paper are reports that celebration meetings were held abroad and a national seminar on party building in Peru on the 47th founding anniversary of the

WPK. The paper conveys foreign public voices lauding Korean-style socialist system centred on the masses of people.

The paper runs a commentary lambasting the U.S. "Torricelli Bill" and carries news that the U.S. imperialists' economic blockade against Cuba is under fire in various countries.

It is reported in the press that the overseas dispatch of the "self-defense forces" of Japan and its moves to become a nuclear power have been denounced in different countries and a nationwide strike was staged in Italy.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article titled "Problem of 'Comfort Women for the Army' Assumes International Dimensions."

Japan's Qualifications for UN Security Council Doubted

*SK1510070192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[*"Is She Qualified for It at All?"—KCNA headline*]

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry said deliberation on the reorganization of the U.N. Security Council should begin in the United Nations. This is the topic of a NODONG SINMUN commentary today which brands this remark as a clear revelation of Japan's aim to capture a seat of Security Council permanent member at any cost.

Japan is intending to become a permanent member of the Security Council through U.N. restructuring whereby to take the position of a "political power" in the international arena and have a stronger voice and exercise her influence in dealing with international issues and, at the same time, to use the U.N. as a theatre to gratify her political and military ambitions, the news analyst says, and goes on:

Such qualification must not be granted to countries like Japan, even if the number of Security Council permanent members were increased.

It is a world-recognized fact that Japan had in the past committed immeasurable crimes against the Korean and other Asian nations and mankind.

Nevertheless, the Japanese authorities are still failing to frankly admit and sincerely apologize for the past crimes, working hard to hush them up and prettify and defend them on all accounts.

This has been fully revealed in the DPRK-Japan talks for the normalization of diplomatic relations.

What Japan has done shows that she has not given up her intention to repeat the crime-woven history.

In actuality, Japan has set out on the road of overseas expansion, systematically increasing military spendings every year and stepping up her moves to become a military power and her nuclear armament.

Should such Japan be allowed to take the seat of permanent member, the authority of the Security Council would be impaired and, furthermore, it might bring irretrievable consequences on the settlement of important issues related to the destiny of mankind.

Japan must clearly repent of and apologize for her past replete with crimes before trying to become a permanent member.

MINJU CHOSON Says U.S. Backing Japanese Plutonium Shipment

*SK1510061792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[“MINJU CHOSON Accuses U.S. of Backing Japan’s Plutonium Carriage by Sea”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—Richard Boucher, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, recently stated that the United States had allowed Japan to transport plutonium, contending that her transport of plutonium conformed to the demand for the “peaceful use of nuclear energy” and Japan was considered to “attach importance to security and its guarantee”.

Commenting on this, a MINJU CHOSON analyst today says:

This represents the U.S. official stand towards Japan’s transport of plutonium. It proves that the United States is not only supporting but also zealously backing it.

The United States intends to maintain and strengthen its military domination of the Asian-Pacific region by encouraging Japan’s plutonium transport and its nuclear armament and taking advantage of nuclear-armed Japan. But this is a foolish dream.

If the Japan “Self-Defense Forces” hell bent on overseas expansion were allowed to be armed with nuclear weapons, no one can vouch that Japan would confine her surprise attack only to Asian countries. It has been proved by history that Japan has stretched her hand of aggression to any country, big or small, when it felt itself strong and it necessary.

The U.S. support for Japan’s maritime transport of plutonium increases the Japanese reactionaries’ nuclear hysteria. It is as good as adding fuel to the fire.

The United States had better act with discretion, clearly mindful that Japan’s nuclear armament will bring nothing good to it.

Kim Il-song Receives Greetings From Foreign Leaders

*SK1510055592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers’ Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, received messages of greetings on the 47th founding anniversary of the WPK from Guinean President and Head of State Lansana Conte, President of the State of Palestine and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO Yasir ‘Arafat, Birkinabe President, Head of State and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Blaise Compaore, General Secretary of the Mongolian People’s Revolutionary Party Budragchaagiyn Dash-yondon, General Secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India Indrajit Gupta and General Secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist-Leninist) Dilip Barua.

The messages warmly hailed the founding anniversary of the WPK and expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the Korean people and their peoples, between the WPK and their parties would strengthen and develop.

They wished President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il Meet Military School Teachers

*SK1510110692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song and the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army [KPA] Comrade Kim Chong-il today met and congratulated the participants in the meeting of teachers of KPA military schools at all levels.

The participants warmly welcomed President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il with storm of cheers of “Hurrah!”

Present on the occasion were Minister of People’s Armed Forces Marshal O Chin-u, Chief of the General Staff of the KPA Vice Marshal Choe Kwang, KPA Vice Marshals Kim Pong-yol and Choe In-tok, KPA Generals Yi Pong-won and Cho Myong-son and other generals.

President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il had a picture taken with the participants after congratulating them on their positive contribution to strengthening the KPA into invincible revolutionary armed forces through vigorous educational work under the chuche-oriented military education policy of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

O Chin-u, Choe Kwang Attend Military Schools Meeting*SK1510061592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—A meeting of teachers of military schools at all levels of the Korean People's Army [KPA] was held at the February 8 House of Culture here Wednesday [14 October].

The meeting summed up successes and experiences gained in the military education within the People's Army in hearty response to the party's *chuche*-based idea and policy of education and discussed tasks of strengthening and developing the People's Army into invincible revolutionary armed forces by further improving the military education in compliance with the requirement of modelling the whole army on the *chuche* idea.

Marshal O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], vice-chairman of the National Defence Committee of the DPRK, member of the party Central Military Commission and minister of People's Armed Forces, conveyed a congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the participants in the meeting.

The message says:

The military schools of all levels within the People's Army have brought up many faithful and fine military and political cadres defending the party and the leader politically and ideologically and with their lives and prepared in an all-round way, and stepped up the development of military science and technology to meet the requirements of modern warfare and thus discharged their noble mission before the country and revolution with credit.

The teachers of military schools of all levels should firmly safeguard our best socialist system centred on the popular masses by always living and working in a revolutionary way as required by the situation.

Vice Marshal Choe Kwang, Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK, vice-chairman of the National Defence Committee of the DPRK, member of the party Central Military Commission and chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army, made a report, which was followed by speeches of generals and officers of the KPA.

The reporter and speakers recalled that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward an idea and theory of revolutionary military education and originated the *chuche*-based military education in the first days of paving the path of the Korean revolution by arms, and established shining traditions and noble experiences of military education during the great anti-Japanese war and has wisely led the work of military education in each period and at each stage of the developing revolution.

Today the *chuche*-orientated military education is further developing in depth to a new higher stage under the energetic guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, a genius of military affairs and supreme commander of our revolutionary armed forces, they noted, and stressed:

Our People's Army is successfully pushing ahead with the cause of building the army of *chuche*, forming a solid socio-political organism united with one mind around Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, and safeguarding our party with arms with intense loyalty to the party and the leader and conviction of sure victory of the cause of socialism in the complicated vortex of history.

A message of pledge to Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the meeting.

Irish Communist Party Leader Holds News Conference*SK1510060592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—Michael O'Riordan, chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Ireland, staying in the DPRK, held a press conference on October 13.

He said:

The Pyongyang declaration is of great significance in defending and advancing the cause of socialism. Accordingly, it is an encouraging banner which inspires the communists the world over and the progressive people aspiring after socialism with confidence in the victory of socialism.

Our party held a meeting exactly at the time when the red flag was being lowered at Kremlin and took a pledge to remain faithful to the socialist cause to the end before loudly singing the Song of Red Flag with a firm oath to go ahead holding higher the red flag of revolution and the banner of socialism in any adversity.

While staying in Korea I was greatly encouraged by the unshakable will of the Korean people to defend and advance the socialist cause to its accomplishment.

Today an overwhelming majority of people are in a serious social uneasiness in Western countries due to the continued economic stagnation and sharp increase of unemployment. But socialism centred on the popular masses is making victorious progress in Korea.

The present realities of the East European countries where socialism was frustrated prove the justice of the policies of the Workers' Party of Korea which has built a solid independent national economy in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, firmly maintaining independence under the uplifted banner of the *chuche* idea.

Departs 15 Oct

*SK1510105992 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—Michael O'Riordan, chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Ireland, left here today after a 14-day visit to Korea.

He was seen off at the airport by Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the C.C., the WPK.

While staying in Korea, he visited Mangyongdae and went round various places of Pyongyang and local areas such as the West Sea barrage, Panmunjom, the Tower of the Chuche Idea and the Taean heavy machine complex.

International Health Care Meeting Closes 15 Oct

*SK1510111492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—The international consultation on the assurance of quality in health care which opened here on October 14 closed today.

At the plenary meeting held prior to the closing ceremony, keynote reports and speeches were made on "conception of the assurance of quality in health care" and "pattern of the section health system".

The direction and ways of enhancing the qualitative level of health care at the level of village and county (district) were discussed at the consultation.

The participants in the consultation noted with satisfaction that the DPRK has been enforcing a complete and universal free medical service, regarding health care as an important part of the state health system and made achievements in the assurance of quality in primary health care such as the planning of health care and the training of health personnel.

They had identical views on the issues of establishing the conception, index and standard of the assurance of quality in primary health care in conformity with the specific conditions of each country and improving the quality in health care.

Socialist Working Youth League Delegates Begin PRC Visit

*OW1510155992 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513
GMT 15 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea led by Choe Hyon-tok, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the League, left here today for a visit to China.

Arriving here today was an Aichi Prefectural Delegation for Japan-Korea Friendship led by Toichiro Kuno,

member of the House of Representatives from the Liberal Democratic Party and acting chairman of the Aichi Prefectural People's Council for the Promotion of Normalisation of Japan-Korea Diplomatic Relations.

WPK Sends Greetings to Nepal Denuclearization Conference

*SK1610062792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] on October 16 sent a message of greetings to the international conference supporting the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula which has opened in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, on the initiative of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace of Korea.

The message said:

We believe that the international conference will mark an important milestone in inspiring the Korean people in the efforts to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and the common cause of mankind for building a free and peaceful new world without nuclear threat. Regarding it as one of the fundamental problems to ensure peace and security on the Korean peninsula and, furthermore, in Asia and the world, to get the nuclear weapons of the United States withdrawn from South Korea, our party put forward a proposal for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula many years ago and has made tireless efforts for its realization.

The adoption and effectuation of the joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula along with the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation and exchange between the North and South of Korea is a brilliant fruition of the consistent anti-nuclear and peace policy of our party and its persistent efforts for its realization.

The WPK and the Korean people will discharge their noble obligations and duties for the cause of peace in Asia and the world by making all efforts for the complete peace on the Korean peninsula.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we express deep thanks to the governments, political parties, organizations and figures of different countries who are actively supporting the just cause of the WPK and the Korean people for the denuclearization and peace on the Korean peninsula and the reunification of the country.

Yi Chong-ok Attends Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Publication

*SK1610094692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438
GMT 16 Oct 92*

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—A central symposium marking the 10th anniversary of the publication of "The Workers' Party of Korea Is a Chuche-type

Revolutionary Party Which Inherited the Glorious Tradition of the DIU [Down With Imperialism Union]," a classical work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, (October 17, 1982) was held at the People's Palace of Culture here Thursday.

It was attended by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, alternate Politburo member and Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Choe Tae-pok and officials concerned and officials of party cadres training organs, science, education, the press, literature and art, the People's Armed Forces and public security organs.

The speakers at the symposium said that the classical work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is an immortal one which consummates the theories of building the working-class party in the age of independence including the fundamental characteristics and looks of the working-class party, fundamental principles of building the party and the idea of building the party in a far-sighted way and develops and perfects them on a new higher stage, and a great program which indicates the way of finally accomplishing the cause of building the working-class party.

By elucidating the idea that the working-class party should from A to Z be an independent party and a mass party, they said, the work provided a sure guarantee of invariably defending and strengthening the revolutionary character of the working-class party.

Noting that to safeguard the revolutionary character of the party is an important question related to the destiny of the party and revolution and that though there may be change in the tasks of revolution and its strategy and tactics and fighting method in the course of the progress of revolution, the revolutionary character cannot be changed, they said that the party cannot perform its leading function apart from its revolutionary character.

They said that the work indicated a fundamental way of building a revolutionary party in the age of independence by expounding the unique idea on the basic principles of building the working-class party.

The basic principles of building the party laid down in the work are unique principles which indicate the correct way for the working-class party to definitely guarantee the oneness and continuity of idea and leadership and realize the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses and thus increase its militancy and might and steadily strengthen and develop itself into an invincible revolutionary party, they said, adding:

The dear leader's work is a highly important guideline which consummates the theories of building the revolutionary party of a new type in the age of independence because it clearly indicated the way of finally accomplishing the cause of building the working-class party by propounding the unique idea of building the party in a far-sighted manner.

The idea of building the party in a far-sighted way had not been raised at all in the preceding theories of building the party of the working class. The part and parcel of it is that the work defines the working-class party not only as a weapon of building socialism and communism but also as a guiding force of society which must exist even after communism has been built.

Japanese SKNDF Mission Denounces South's 'Anti-DPRK Campaign'

SK1510054792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo October 13 (KNS-KCNA)—The mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) in Japan denounced the "Security Planning Board" of South Korea for launching an anti-DPRK campaign under the name of fictitious "case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea."

In a statement issued Oct. 12, the mission said:

It has been a habitual method of the successive regimes of traitors and fascists in South Korea, a colony of the United States, to conceive a mean political drama and kick up an anti-communist confrontation racket to save the situation each time it faces a political crisis.

The afore-said "case" this time is also a nonsensical farce staged to find a way out of the serious crisis on the threshold of the "presidential elections." The military fascist group of the "Democratic Liberal Party" of South Korea is trying to put down the anti-"DLP" sentiments ever growing among the people, stifle the national democratic movement forces and block the activities of opposition parties by staging a monstrous political drama while employing the trick of "formation of a neutral cabinet."

The Hanminjon mission in Japan strongly demands that the South Korean authorities immediately release all the detained democrats, dissolve the "Security Planning Board" and unconditionally scrap the "National Security Law".

Purification System, Water Pipe Network Projects Completed

SK1510105892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—One more purification system has been completed in the capital city of Pyongyang.

Its plottage extends 80,000 square metres on the bank of the Taedong River and it can purify water by hundreds of thousands of cubic metres a day.

The completion of the Pyongchon purification ground will help to prevent pollution of water of the Taedong River more thoroughly by dealing with sewage from

residential quarters and industrial establishments in the capital by a biological method.

A new large-scale reservoir and water pipe networks have been built in Hamhung to supply more sufficient service water of good quality to different regions.

Various projects which will help toward improving the people's living standard including the modernization project of the Pyongsong garment factory under the Unha General Bureau of Trade and the construction of the folk art exhibition hall with a floor space of more than 7,000 square metres in Tongil Street in Pyongyang have been completed in succession.

'Talented' Mathematician's Life Profiled

SK1410232592 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501*
GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Pyongyang October 14 (KCNA)—Kim So-in, a young doctor in his twenties, is a talented and promising mathematician of Korea.

At the age of 21, he gave a scientific and theoretical answer to the question of partial differential equation in algebra, causing a big sensation in academic circles.

He succeeded in the studies to solve the equation of mathematical physics which is applied in answering many questions of modern physics such as laser and plasma in the form of the easier linear question, thus greatly contributing to the development of modern theory of mathematical physics.

His treatise "The Commutative Relation in the Commutation of Differential Operation and Application to Non-linear Developmental Equation" published in 1986 took the great masters by surprise for its profound scientific and theoretical contents and for its breaking a new ground in scientific pursuit. That year he was awarded the degree of doctor.

Born a son of an ordinary researcher in Yongbyon County, North Phyongan Province, he earned fame in the whole neighbourhood in his childhood for his rare intelligence.

Kim So-in began to recognize the letters one year after his birth, and understood mathematics of the primary school at the age of five and the algebra of the senior middle school at the age of seven, easily solving even difficult mathematical problems.

He entered the University of Science when he was 13 years old.

He has extensive knowledges of many spheres such as music, literature, history, and geography, besides mathematics, physics and chemistry.

"Let us discover a big thing in scientific studies. To this end, let us take a critical attitude towards all the ready-made scientific theories and create a new thing by making a more innovative invention therefrom",—this

is his motto. With this attitude of pursuit, wisdom and great zeal of study he presented a treatise to a national youth scientific seminar already in his fourth grade to win the first prize and become a candidate associate doctor.

After graduating from the university at the age of 17, he became an associate doctor in one year and a doctor in three years.

Greater successes are expected from Kim So-in who has greatly contributed to the solution of theoretical and practical problems arising in applied mathematics at the Mathematics Institute of the Academy of Sciences.

CPC Decrees Confer Awards on Citizens

SK1410224492

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of DPRK Central People's Committee (CPC) decrees read on Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean.

CPC decree dated 28 August and signed by the CPC: "The Kim Il-song prize" was conferred on Comrade Hong Si-gun, head of the mass gymnastics display team of the State Physical Culture and Sports Committee, for his creating mass gymnastics, contributing to firmly arming the workers, youth, and children with the *chuche* idea and motivating them to implement party policy. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 3 September)

CPC decree dated 28 August and signed by the CPC: "The Title of DPRK People's Athlete" and "Order of National Flag First Class" were conferred on Choe Ki-tae, section chief of the mass gymnastics display team of the State Physical Culture and Sports Committee, and Yom Se-kwan, head of a department of the Korea University of Physical Education, for creating mass gymnastics, contributing to firmly arming the workers, youth, and children with the *chuche* idea and raising the level of physical culture. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 3 September)

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "The DRPK Honorary Title" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on functionaries of the mass gymnastics display team of the State Physical Culture and Sports Committee for creating and performing mass gymnastics, contributing to firmly arming the workers, youth, and children with the *chuche* idea and motivating them to implement party policy. The following were awarded: "Title of DPRK Meritorious Athlete" and "Order of Labor" on Choe Kye-sun, tutor of the mass gymnastics display team of the State Physical Culture and Sports Committee; "Title of DPRK Merited Artist" and "Order of Labor" on Kang Kong-hong, composer of the mass gymnastics display team of the State Physical Culture and Sports Committee. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 4 September)

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "The Kim Il-song Youth Honor Prize" was conferred on the students and functionaries who performed in mass gymnastic displays, contributing to guaranteeing the successful performance of mass gymnastics. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 4 September)

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "The Kim Il-song Children's Honor Prize" was conferred on the Children Union's members for performing mass gymnastics, contributing to guaranteeing the successful performance of mass gymnastics. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 4 September)

CPC decree dated 28 August and signed by DPRK President Kim Il-song: "The Title of Guards" was conferred on the Pyongyang Municipal Management Spare Parts Plant for regularizing and standardizing enterprise management, contributing to accelerating socialist economic construction and improving the people's living standard. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 4 September)

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "The Title of DPRK Meritorious Municipal Keeper" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on the municipal management workers for taking care of, repairing, and maintaining streets, villages, and houses, contributing to offering conveniences to the people. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 4 September)

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "The Title of DPRK People's Artist" and "Order of National Flag First Class" were conferred on Comrade U Kyon-hyon, deputy director of the Korean Documentary Film Studio and head of the Mangyongdae Film Troupe, for producing documentary films and indoctrinating the party members and workers in a revolutionary manner, contributing to motivating them to implement party policy. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 5 September)

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "The Title of DPRK Meritorious Artist" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on the cameramen of the Mangyongdae Film Troupe of the Korean documentary Film Studio for producing documentary films and indoctrinating the party members and workers in a revolutionary manner, contributing to motivating them to implement party policy. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 5 September)

CPC Decree dated 28 August and signed by DPRK President Kim Il-song: "The No. 26 Model Machine Factory Prize" was conferred on model units, including Chonsong Youth Coal Mine, Pyongyang Sogu Public Building Construction Company, and others, for taking care of machinery facilities, regularizing and standardizing enterprise management, contributing to overfulfilling the people's economic plan. (Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 10 September)

CPC decree dated 1 September and signed by DPRK President Kim Il-song: "Title of DPRK People's Artist" and "Order of National Flag First Class" were conferred on Yi Yul-son, dean of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts, for implementing the party's literary policy, creating many works of art with high ideological and artistic nature, positively contributing to indoctrinating party members and workers in a revolutionary manner, and cultivating talented artists. [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 10 September]

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "Title of DPRK Merited Artist" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on Yu Yong-kwan, director of the Korean Art Publishing House; Ho Myong-chun, head of Art Production Company in South Hamgyong Province; Kang Ik-ha, head of a department of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts; and Kim Chol-kang, head of a department of Pyongyang University of Fine Art, for creating and exhibiting fine pictures, and positively contributing to indoctrinating party members and working people in a revolutionary manner. [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 15 September]

CPC decree dated 17 September and signed by DPRK President Kim Il-song: "Title of DPRK Labor Hero," "Gold Medal and Hammer and Sickle," and "Order of National Flag First Class" were conferred on Cho Chon-muk, agricultural scientist, for successfully carrying out research in connection with the green revolution, and positively contributing to the country's agricultural development. [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 17 September]

CPC decree dated 16 September and signed by DPRK President Kim Il-song: "DPRK Honorary Title" is conferred on functionaries in the educational domain for providing schools with basic facilities, improving the curriculum by upgrading teacher quality, positively contributing to educating new generations as knowledgeable, virtuous, and healthy *chuche* type revolutionary talents who are loyal to the party, and developing the country's science and technology, with the following particulars: "Title of DPRK People's Teacher" on Man Yang-il, director of Pyongyang Taedonggang Second High School; So Chang-sok, director of Hoesang High School in Hoesang District, Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province; and Tae Chang-hwan, principal of Kilju Second Middle School in Kilju County, North Hamgyong Province. "Title of DPRK People's Scientist" on Yi Tae-do, head of an office of Kim Il-song University, Kim Sang-chun, head of a department of Kim Chaek University of Technology; and "Title of DPRK People's Reporter" on Sim Mun-hak, head of a department of Teachers News. [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 19 September]

CPC decree dated 1 September and signed by DPRK President Kim Il-song: "Title of Exemplary Education County" was conferred on Kumya County, South Hamgyong Province and Samsu County, Yanggang Province for "fostering loyalty to the party in students and setting

fine examples for them to become capable revolutionaries who are well prepared mentally, morally, and physically." [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 19 Sep 92]

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "Title of DPRK Meritorious Teacher" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on the following 17 functionaries in the education sector including Kim Tong-sil, principal of Pyongyang Potonggang Senior Middle School; Choe Suk-ae, principal of Pyongyang Yusong People's School; Yun Myong-sun, vice principal of Pyongyang Cheil Senior Middle School, and "Title of DPRK Meritorious Scientist" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on the following 17 functionaries in the education sector including So Yi-hwa, director of Kim Il-song University; Yi Kwang-un, professor at Kim Hyong-chik University of Education; Chon In-su, head of a department of Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering, for their "great contribution to the development of the country's scientific field." [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 19 Sep 92]

CPC decree dated 16 September and signed by DPRK President: "Title of DPRK Hero, "Gold Star Medal," and "Order of National Flag First Class" were conferred on former officers of the Korean People's Army Yi Won-kuk and Chon Se-rok for "faithfully fulfilling combat mission that was entrusted to them" and saving lives of revolutionary comrades and people by showing the spirit of self-sacrifice. [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 29 Sep 92]

CPC decree dated 23 September and signed by DPRK President: "Title of Exemplary County of Unity Between the Army and the People" was conferred on Kosong County, Kangwon Province for "setting a fine example in highly displaying the traditional spirit of unity between the army and the people." [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 29 Sep 92]

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "Title of DPRK Meritorious Artist" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on Kim Hui-yun, artist for the Korea Stamp Corporation, for making great contribution in creating three-dimensional pictures and stamps, which are highly ideological and artistic, and widely introducing them abroad. [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 30 Sep 92]

Undated and unsigned CPC decree: "Title of DPRK Meritorious Woodcutter" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on Son Sang-kun, woodcutter of Chonchang work site, Songwon forestry station, Chagang Province and Kim Chang-yul, woodcutter of Paekam work site of Komdok pit timber production station of South Hamgyong Province. "Title of DPRK Lumber Transporter" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on five people including Choe Chu-chin, truck driver of Yangdok pit timber production station of South Pyongyang Province and Kim Wal-pin, truck driver of Chonma forestry station of North Pyongan Province. "Title of DPRK

Meritorious Raftsman" and "Order of Labor" were conferred on Choe Song-ho, raftsman of rafting work site of Pangyo forestry station, Kangwon Province and Yi Sung-ho, raftsman of Kumchang rafting work site of Amnok River, Yanggang Province. These workers in the forestry sector were conferred these titles for "vigorously carrying out the struggle to meet our party's forestry policy to increase lumber production annually, thus contributing to accelerating socialist economic construction." [Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 30 Sep 92]

County Administration, Local Economies Linked

922C0241A *Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 5 Aug 92 p 2*

[Article by Choe Chong-hon: "Developing the Local Economy is an Important Task Facing County Administrative-Economic Organs"]

[Text] Enhancing the function and role of the county administrative-economic organs to conform to the intent of the party has very great significance in further developing the local economy, more smoothly fulfilling the increasing material demands of the people, evenly developing all regions of the country, and vigorously accelerating socialist economic construction.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out as follows:

"By building up the county and enhancing its role, we should brilliantly achieve the grand design of the leader concerning further developing the economy by mobilizing all local reserves and potentials to the maximum and greatly raising the people's livelihood."

The local economy is an economy that is managed and operated by the local economic organs of the state and targets primarily the development of the local demand, based on the local area's raw materials sources. Here belong the various sectors of the people's economy that fall under and are managed and operated in local construction and industry or other local economic organs.

Developing the local economy means developing the various economic sectors necessary for each locality to manage by itself the economy of its own area. In other words, it means harmoniously developing the various economic sectors that have local significance.

The local economy develops a certain area as a unit. In our country the county is the comprehensive unit of local economic development. In our country the local industry and rural economy that compose the local economy develop the county as a unit, and rural construction and industrial circulation work also is carried out centered about the county. Therefore, if we want to develop the local economy, we must continuously enhance the role of the county administrative and economic organs.

Enhancing the functions and role of the county administrative-economic organs is an important requirement for developing the local economy to suit the characteristics of each locality.

Inasmuch as the rural economy is managed and operated by the administrative-economic organs of the pertinent area, local economic development depends on how the county administrative-economic organs organize and carry out their work based on the party's line and policy, to suit the characteristics of their own locality.

How the local economy—an economy that has developed based on the production materials of the locality—utilizes the locality's natural economic conditions is a major factor impacting on the development of the local economy.

Of course, since each locality's natural economic conditions differ from one another, there may be places advantageous to economic development and places unfavorable to economic development, and that may exert a certain influence on constructing and developing the local economy. It is by no means the natural and economic conditions that have a decisive impact on local economic development, however. Even though the conditions may be unfavorable, if the administrative-economic organs of the relevant area scientifically calculate the overall economic situation—from the characteristics of their area's production materials and utilization situation, the production and technological conditions, and the demand structure of the populace to the technological and skills level of the masses—and take the initiative in organizing and carrying out work aimed at local economic development, then they can quickly develop the local economy no less than places where the conditions are favorable.

Practical experience shows that when the county administrative-economic organs use their head from the firm standpoint of consolidating their local area's economy by their own strength in order to suit the demands of party policy, and create businesses and work assiduously, they can quickly develop the local economy by effectively utilizing their area's natural geographical conditions and natural assets to the maximum.

Enhancing the functions and role of county administrative-economic organs is an important demand of realistic development.

In our country, under the wise leadership of the party, the scale of the local industry factories has become greater, their technological and equipment level has become much higher, and consumer goods production has rapidly increased. In addition, the material and technical foundations of the rural economy have become strengthened, agricultural production has become more multifaceted, local construction has expanded, and industry has greatly developed. Therefore, the structure of the local economy has become more varied and production and consumption linkages have become more close and complex.

In particular, in socialist economic construction there stands before us today the important task of having to enhance across the board the superiority of our country's socialist system by strengthening the country's economic might and more smoothly solving the problems of the people's food, clothing, and housing.

This reality demands that we enhance more than ever the role of the county administrative-economic organs and quickly develop the rural economy, including local industry, the rural economy, and rural construction and commerce.

Only by heightening the responsibility of the county administrative-economic organs is it possible to smoothly solve difficult and complex problems such as scientifically calculating and rationally utilizing the production and technical conditions of the locality and correctly guaranteeing the production and consumption linkages between factories and enterprises and cooperative farms. In addition, by mobilizing and utilizing, to the maximum, all reserves and production potentials of the locality and rationalizing business management and further developing the local economy it is possible to strengthen the country's economic might and continuously raise the people's livelihood.

Enhancing the role of the country administrative and economic organs is an important method for the swift development of the local industry.

Local industry occupies an important place in the development of the local economy. In socialist economic development, correctly combining and developing the central industry and local industry makes it possible to successfully attain the objectives of socialist production. Of course, what has decisive significance in economic construction and raising the people's standard of living is the large-scale central industry. That alone cannot smoothly solve in a timely manner the problems arising in economic construction and raising the people's standard of living, however. If we want to quickly increase production and better fulfill the diverse material demands of the people, all the areas of the country must mobilize and utilize to the maximum the production potentials. To do that, each locality must build many medium and small local industry factories and develop local industry.

Since as the development of the local economy depends on how local industry is strengthened and developed, if we wish to develop local industry, we must enhance the role of the county administrative-economic organs. Only by doing so is it possible to quickly increase the consumer goods production mobilizing and using to the fullest extent the idle labor and idle materials and the natural resources in the locality, without using a great deal of state funds for manpower and labor objectives and labor allowances, and to be able to overcome the one-sidedness of local economy and drive forward the industrialization of agriculture by basically possessing the various production sectors necessary for the county

economy. In addition, they can firmly consolidate their own people's consumer production base and smoothly fill quantitatively and qualitatively the diverse demands of the populace for consumer goods and do a good job of supplying products to the rural inhabitants and quickly reduce the gap between the city and the countryside.

Enhancing the role of the county administrative-economic organs is a firm guarantee for the development of the whole rural economy.

The rural economy occupies an important place in local economic development. Without developing the rural economy, we cannot comprehensively develop the local economy and we cannot elevate the living standards of the local populace. Therefore, county administrative-economic organs must take responsibility for and guide the development of the rural economy together with local industry and they must rationally develop the rural economy to suit the natural and economic conditions of the locality.

Today, when agricultural production is changing to a more developed technical process and the role of technology in agricultural production is becoming endlessly higher, furnishing industrial guidance to the rural economy is an important issue for enabling us to achieve high results in rural technological revolution and agricultural production.

In our country's counties, today an economic and technological strength has been provided that is capable of guiding the rural economy by industrial methods. They have been provided with the organs, enterprises, and material and technical means that can help all the processes of agricultural production technically.

The county cooperative farm management committee controls in a unified fashion all the state enterprises in the county that are serving the rural economy. It directly guides the cooperative farms and sets up a systematic technical guidance system, on the basis of which the farms successfully receive technical guidance for agricultural production. This makes it possible for the state-owned human and material might that is serving the rural economy to be combined as if they were one organism and to display great strength. This makes it possible to show maximum economic effectiveness in allocation and utilization. Therefore, enhancing the role of the county administrative-economic organs is a firm guarantee that will make it possible to further raise the level of irrigation and electrification of the rural economy, increase the fertility of the soil, actively achieve mechanization and chemicalization of the rural economy and thoroughly implement the demands of the *chuche* agricultural method and decisively increase agricultural production.

By achieving a new turnaround in the struggle to develop the local economy, the county administrative-economic organs must strengthen the country's economic might and further raise the people's living standards and highly promote the superiority of our style of socialism.

Editorial Urges Consumer Goods Production

9232C0240 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 4
Aug 92 p 1

[Editorial: "Let Us More Vigorously Carry Out the August 3 Consumer Goods Movement"]

[Text] It has been eight years since the August 3 consumer goods production movement originated by our party began.

Observing this day, our people feel a warmth toward the wise leadership of the party, which has brought rapid development to the August 3 consumer goods production.

In the last several years since the August 3 consumer goods production movement began, work-teams and consumer goods producer ranks who are producing August 3 consumer goods across the country are expanding rapidly, and production bases are being modernized. So, during this period, the quality of the August 3 consumer goods and the number of bases have increased dramatically.

These results show clearly the justness of the measures of our party, which has seen to it that the August 3 consumer goods movement was carried out, and the great vitality of the movement.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out as follows:

"We should continue to vigorously carry out the August 3 consumer goods movement in the future and produce more diversified consumer goods of good quality."

Vigorously carrying out the August 3 consumer goods movement has great significance in implementing the party's guideline on light industry revolution.

The light industry revolution is a revolution for satisfactorily guaranteeing the independent and creative life of our people from the material aspect and enabling them to live better. The goal we seek to achieve by carrying out the light industry revolution is to greatly expand the quantity and types of consumer goods so as to satisfactorily fill the demand for consumer goods in the next few years and to boost their quality to a world level.

Only by the efforts of the specialized light industry factories can we successfully accomplish this task. It can be smoothly carried out only when we carry out consumer goods production as a mass movement. The August 3 consumer goods production movement is a broad mass movement that makes it possible to effectively mobilize and utilize inner reserves among the masses and to epochally increase various kinds of consumer goods production based on the masses' creativity. Therefore, when we vigorously carry out this movement and various kinds of consumer goods pour out of the factories, the party's light industry revolution guidelines will be more thoroughly implemented.

All functionaries and workers should bear in mind that the August 3 consumer goods production movement is an important work aimed at providing our people with a more affluent and happy life and we should continuously to spur on this movement.

If we want to more vigorously carry out the August 3 consumer goods movement, we should correctly establish the social atmosphere so that the broad masses participate actively in this movement.

The social atmosphere exerts a great influence on a mass movement. The better job we do of creating the social atmosphere, the more highly the revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses and their infinite strength comes to be displayed.

The social atmosphere we must set up today is one in which the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance that solved old problems by our own strength, trusting in lofty loyalty to the party and leader and our own strength, which our working class and people possessed in the postwar Great Chollima Upswing Period. If only we have this kind of spirit, this kind of ethos, it will be possible to increase the August 3 consumer goods production any amount under today's favorable conditions.

The local administrative and economic committees and functionaries of the sectors concerned must, on the one hand, using various methods and forms, deeply drive home among the broad masses the party's intent concerning vigorously carrying out the August 3 consumer goods production movement. They must do a good job of informing the broad masses of the goals of this movement and the demands for carrying it out. Therefore, all workers must positively rush forward to this movement with revolutionary enthusiasm.

In addition, we must positively give prominence to those units and producers who are showing a good example in the August 3 consumer goods production.

Laying the groundwork for administrative organization work aimed at increasing the consumer goods producer ranks is one of the important problems arising in order to vigorously carry out the August 3 consumer goods production movement.

Here, first we must give deep attention to organizing more household workteams and subsidiary workteams. The local administrative-economic committees must organize still more household workteams and subsidiary work teams, aggressively utilizing various kinds of industrial by-products, natural materials, and cultivated materials with family dependents and idle labor in township districts, worker settlements, and people's neighborhood units and produce various kinds of consumer goods such as foodstuffs and daily necessities so as to meet the actual situation.

Next, we must turn our attention to increasing daily necessities workplaces and workteams. Factories and enterprises have a lot of reserves for consumer goods

production growth. All factories and enterprises should mobilize and utilize every bit of their by-products and increase daily necessity workshops and workteams making good-quality consumer goods.

It is important to enhance the role of consumer goods producers, especially the household convenience service workers.

The household convenience service personnel are responsible for a big share of the August 3 consumer goods production. To that extent, how the household convenience service workers carry out their work greatly influences the August 3 consumer goods production results.

Household convenience service personnel should always turn their attention toward making even one more August 3 consumer goods product, with the pride of being directly responsible for consumer goods production.

In addition, they have to exert efforts toward increasing their technical and skills levels. In this connection, functionaries of the relevant sector should organize work in a planned manner in order to raise the technical skills level of household convenience service personnel. In particular, they should continuously enhance the knowledge of household convenience service personnel by setting up sample rooms and frequently organizing exhibits, experience presentation meetings, and field trips.

If we want to raise the August 3 consumer goods production movement to a high level, we should strengthen the material and technical foundations of the consumer goods production units.

Only by firmly consolidating the material and technical foundations is it possible to fully mobilize and utilize inner resources and to normalize production at a high level and raise the quality of consumer goods.

The basic thing in strengthening the material foundations is to provide modern-style production facilities. The local administrative-economic committees should highly display the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance in the factories, enterprises, and cooperatives in their area and provide planned and forward-looking leadership in setting up modern production facilities to suit their own characteristics.

In addition, they should help them to get tools and jigs. Tools and jigs play an important role in increasing the types of products and raising their quality. As practical experience shows, tools and jigs are of various types and the more there are, the more we can increase the quantity and types of consumer goods and raise their quality. Factories, enterprises, and cooperative farms should steadily push forward the work directed at increasing tools and jigs.

It is important to further enhance the flames of the movement to capture the title of "August 3 People's Consumer Goods Production Model County" (city, district).

The movement to capture the title of "August 3 People's Consumer Goods" Production Model County is a mass movement aimed at epochally increasing consumer goods production by organizing and mobilizing the broad masses. To that extent if we make every county into a August 3 Consumer Goods Production Model County, the accomplishment of the light industry revolution will be further hastened.

The local administrative-economic committees should grasp the movement to capture the title of August 3 People's Consumer Goods Production Model County as a committee-wide project and vigorously carry it out. They should set up goals correctly by prospective goal and by stage in order to capture the title of August 3 Consumer Goods Production Model County so as to suit the characteristics of the region and vigorously motivate the factories, enterprises, cooperatives and the residents and carry out the resolution in a manner so as to show its worth. They should routinely sum up the progress status of this movement, aggressively publicize good experiences, and continuously deepen the movement to capture the title of August 3 Consumer Goods Production Model County.

The August 3 people's consumer goods production movement is a worthwhile struggle for guaranteeing more perfectly the daily-increasing demands of the workers for consumer goods.

Let all functionaries and workers positively contribute to making a splendid life for our people by more dynamically carrying out the August 3 consumer goods production movement.

South Korea

YONHAP Summarizes Internal Soviet Reports on KAL Downing

SK1610110992 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT
16 Oct 92

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 15 [dateline as received] (YONHAP)—Following are the summary of two reports which the then Soviet Defense Minister Dimitriy Ustinov and KGB Chief Viktor Chebrikov sent to Soviet General Secretary Yuriy Andropov on the downing of a Korean Air Lines [KAL] plane.

—First report prepared in November 1983

After a South Korean plane was shot down on Sept. 1 in the Japan Sea after it intruded into the Kamchatka Peninsula and the Sakhalin Soviet air space, we searched for the plane's electronic gear with help from the Pacific

Fleet. The electronic gear was needed in determining the real purpose of the Korean plane's entry into our air space.

About 40 naval ships and fishing boats were employed in the search. In the same sea area, some 20 American and Japanese vessels and many airplanes of various types conducted a search like us, carefully watching our search operation.

On Oct. 20, we discovered the fuselage and cabin of the downed plane on the high seas 8 kilometers away from the Soviet territorial waters.

Late this year, we salvaged the electronic gear, the center of our interest, which was air-transported to the Air Force Science Institute in Moscow. The Soviet Defense Ministry and the KGB are now secretly decoding it.

Our scooping of the electronic gear is yet to be detected by the U.S. and Japanese intelligence. To mislead the U.S. and Japan, our naval vessels are pretending to carry on their search in the Japan Sea.

—Report on decoding of black box prepared in December 1983

Through the decoding of the electronic gear, we could confirm that the downed plane's inertia and course navigational systems were normal.

Nonetheless, the Korean plane gradually deviated from an international course above Kamchatka and entered 660km deep into the Soviet airspace. Moreover, the area the plane infiltrated is a place where Soviet Air Defense commands are located.

When we take into account the high-degree professional proficiency pilots and the durability and precision of the plane's navigational system, the South Korean plane's intrusion into the Soviet air space can be proven as intentional.

The evaluation of the actual recording device of the plane and the attitude shown by the U.S. Government following the downing, led us to arrive at the conclusion that this was a large-scale provocative act carefully premeditated by U.S. intelligence. The provocation was to pursue the following two goals:

One was to infiltrate into the Soviet Far East area to make a reconnaissance collection on our air defense system and to obtain ground for a highly effective propaganda campaign that as an intelligence plane could fly through the Soviet Far East area without being punished, our air defense system is a piece of junk.

Second was that if the Korean plane were damaged or destroyed by our air defense forces, they could have launched a crazy campaign against the Soviets. Because the U.S. intelligence saw to it that no material evidence could be left when it was shot down as they prepared it, our experts failed to find out any evidence substantiating the U.S. intelligence's involvement.

If disputes occur over this incident in the future, we should strongly stick to the Soviet Government statement of Sept. 6, reject any responsibility and material compensation for the sacrifice of passengers, and shift all blame to the U.S. Administration which is the organizer of the provocative act.

It is hoped that the general secretary will agree to this.

Scholars View Russia's ROK, DPRK Policy

*SK1410135892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0929 GMT
14 Oct 92*

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—It is in South Korea's interest to have Moscow maintain properly balanced relations with both Seoul and Pyongyang to realize early Korean reunification, Russian scholars emphasized Wednesday.

It is in Russia's interest to see military stability on the Korean peninsula with assistance from neighboring states such as coordinated freeze of weapons supplies, curtailing of third country's military activities around the Korean peninsula and U.S. troop withdrawal from South Korea to match the level of inter-Korean confidence building, they said.

Alexander Z. Zhebin and Vadim P. Tkachenko, researchers at the Institute of Far Eastern Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, addressed inter-Korean issues and Korea-Russo relations at a joint conference with the Institute for Sino-Soviet studies of South Korea's Hanyang University.

Moscow and Pyongyang have been linked together in various spheres of life and activity for the past 47 years, Zhebin said.

Zhebin, who once was a TASS news agency correspondent in Pyongyang, said "to curtail or to break the relations because of the ideological differences would run counter to the essence of the new, democratic Russia's foreign policy. On the contrary, both sides should consolidate and develop all the positive attainments of the past and especially the good-neighborly relations between the two nations."

"No doubt, this would meet the interests of the Republic of Korea as well as all other powers whose security is directly related to the developments on the Korean peninsula," said Zhebin.

Russia's gains by assisting inter-Korean detente would be elimination of military conflict along its borders and improved chances for economic projects with neighboring countries.

United Korea would become Russia's major economic partner, making positive changes in its balance of foreign relations with countries like Japan, the Russian scholar said.

The new Russian priorities on the Korean peninsula is de-ideologized relations, seeking understanding with the United States, China, and Japan to find mutually acceptable solution of the Korean problem and to strengthen military stability in Korea, according to Zhebin.

Tkachenko, like Zhebin, stressed Russia's "neither the pro-Pyongyang nor pro-Seoul Korean policy."

"By the estimates of the Russian experts, the descent in the Russia-DPRK relations has passed its climax, and the basic forms of their political and economic ties tend to be preserved and consolidated," he told the conference. DPRK stands for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the official name of North Korea.

He, however, demanded deeper attention to practical realization of military confidence-building measures which must precede nuclear security on the Korean peninsula.

South and North Korean membership in the United Nations, which is capable of helping security situation in Korea, does not work "because of the still different attitudes of the North and the South towards this international organization," he said.

Thus the situations calls for foreign security guarantees for the Korean peninsula, according to Tkachenko.

Such guarantees can be expressed through political and economic relations between North Korea and other countries to the same extent as between Russia and South Korea, coordinated freeze of supplies to Korea of modern weapons, military equipment of offensive characters by other countries, curtailing third country military activities such as the annual U.S.-Korea "Team Spirit" exercises, and linkage between U.S. troop withdrawal from South Korea in step with level of inter-Korean confidence building measures.

Any of these factors would stimulate dialogue between the Koreas, he said.

The scholar admitted Russia continues to supply weapons and military equipment to North Korea out of commitments from the bilateral treaty of 1961, traditional ties in military cooperation, and the absence of inter-Korean agreement to restrict weapons imports to the Korean peninsula.

"That Russia supplies weapons to (North Korea) does not mean that it has any hostile intentions about (South Korea)," Tkachenko said.

Neither side has decisive military superiority, leaving open a chance for Seoul and Pyongyang to work out proper measures through policy.

"We are convinced that the problem of military detente in Korea does not depend on the quality and quantity of weapons at either of the sides. What matters is their policy, mutual confidence, and conservatism of military doctrines," he said.

North Reportedly Proposes Nuclear Body Session

SK1610092492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0901 GMT
16 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (YONHAP)—North Korea Friday proposed that the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Commission [NCC] meet Oct. 23 at Panmunjom. The suggestion was made in a telephone message to Kong No-myong, the South's chairman of the NCC, from Choe U-chin, the Northern NCC chairman.

Choe said he was calling a commission meeting because the three NCC contacts held since the eighth meeting failed to register any progress in the discussion of nuclear inspection rules. On Oct. 14, the two sides had their third contact since the eighth meeting on the question of selecting sites to be inspected, but failed to make any headway. They decided to meet again on Oct. 29.

Commenting on Friday's message, Chong Tae-ik, Foreign Ministry director-general for American Affairs and the South's deputy NCC chairman, said the South would affirmatively review the Northern proposal.

PRC Envoy Queried at Breakfast Meeting With Editors

SK1610045592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT
16 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (OANA-YONHAP)—Chinese Ambassador to Seoul Zhang Tingyan's breakfast meeting with South Korean journalists was held under police protection Friday to avoid, in the sponsor's words, "mishaps from the outside due to remarks contrary to Korean people's sentiments."

An Pyong-hun, chairman of the Korean Newspaper Editors Association, which sponsored the meeting, asked for the guests' understanding for the plainclothed policemen outside the meeting room by referring to public outrage against Zhang after his last press conference.

Zhang had told reporters China did not apologize for its involvement in the 1950-1953 Korean war and there was no need to since involvement was inevitable to protect China's own border.

The yet-to-be-pacified public outrage apparently did not bother the Chinese envoy. After repeating his comments from the previous press conference, Zhang, insisting on speaking in Korean, countered seven questions on the issue with a uniform answer that he made the explanation in full and that there was nothing more to be said.

Zhang did show awareness of public sentiment against him, however, asking reporters at the start of the question and answer session that they ask him questions "contributing to improving Seoul-Beijing relations".

—Unfamiliar phrases the ambassador picked up from his 14 years of service in North Korea confounded and

irritated the guests, especially when he repeatedly referred to the Korean peninsula as the "Choson peninsula."

Zhang politely asked their pardon, saying he had been in Seoul barely over a month and had yet to catch up with South Korean terminology.

"Since I am in South Korea, I will gradually follow the South Korean ways. I believe my expressions will too," he said.

Unaware of Kim Il-song Visit Plan

SK1610033492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0126 GMT
16 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (OANA-YONHAP)—China also was a victim of the Korean war and has not changed its position that it will not apologize for taking part in it, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Tingyan said Friday. He was reluctant to admit that the Korean war was started by North Korea, saying that the South Korean Government and people "already know," and that as an ambassador he did not need to say anything more.

On reports that North Korean leader Kim Il-song was soon to visit Beijing, the envoy said he did not receive any formal indication from his government. Kim's trip is believed to be aimed at getting Beijing's support for his power transfer to his son Chong-il.

"Such matters are North Korea's internal problems. If Kim visits Beijing, we will welcome him in his capacity as the North Korean leader," Zhang said.

Beijing has a consistent position on its participation in the 1950-1953 Korean war and the position was explained during the diplomatic normalization talks with Seoul, Zhang told a breakfast meeting with the Korean Newspaper Editors Association.

"Our people, too, were victims," he said.

"An agreement was already reached. We do not need to discuss it any further," he said.

South Korea and China normalized ties Aug. 24. Seoul officials claimed China apologized for taking part in the Korean war, but the ambassador in his first press conference earlier this month said that there was no such apology and that there was no need for one.

When asked about discoveries indicating North Korea started the three-year fratricidal war, the ambassador dodged the question.

"You all already know even if I do not say anything," Zhang said, "I do not think I need to say any more as an ambassador."

The 56-year-old diplomat spent 14 of his 17 years with the Chinese Foreign Ministry in Pyongyang. He was last there from 1986 to 1989 as counselor at the Chinese Embassy.

"We (China) have gladly watched the clear improvement of political tension on the Korean peninsula," Zhang said in his speech before the question and answer session.

"We respect the efforts of the Korean people to realize early peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula and support the peaceful reunification by the own efforts of the Korean people," he said.

He stressed the economic potentials of Seoul-Beijing cooperation, pointing out that South Korea is China's sixth largest trading partner while China is South Korea's third largest.

"China-South Korea economy are greatly complementary," he said.

"China, as an Asian nation, values highly better ties with neighboring countries and will continue efforts for friendly relations with South Korea," Zhang said.

Opposes ROK-Taiwan Relations

SK1610124592 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 16 Oct 92 p 2

[Text] Chinese Ambassador to the ROK Zhang Tingyang reiterated on 16 October that China has no desire to apologize or express regret for its part in the Korean war, saying that "the Chinese Government has a consistent and clear position on its participation in the Korean war."

Ambassador Zhang said this at a Friday breakfast meeting at the Press Center sponsored by the ROK Newspaper Editors Association. He also said that "the ROK and China should concentrate on developing mutual relations instead of discussing past events."

Regarding ROK-Taiwan relations, Ambassador Zhang stressed that "the ROK and China obviously agreed on the 'one-China principle' in their joint statement when they established diplomatic relations," and then added that "the ROK Government should neither establish any official relations with Taiwan nor use Taiwan's national title and flag."

North Korea, Taiwan Expand Economic Cooperation

SK1410120892 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 13 Oct 92 p 7

[Text] North Korean and Taiwanese businessmen and economic groups are actively holding exchanges this year.

Taiwanese business circles, which had limited their trade with North Korea mainly because of its diplomatic relations with the ROK, rushed to the North Korean market after diplomatic relations between the ROK and China were established. North Korea, which is in need of daily necessities, also wants economic cooperation with

Taiwan. Thus, it was reported that economic cooperation between North Korea and Taiwan will be expanded.

According to the Korean Trade Promotion Corporation [KOTRA] on 13 October, the Chen Te Business Institution, a Chinese professional investment company, formed the third economic inspection team of businessmen to visit North Korea. The group arrived in Pyongyang on 13 October for a five-day visit and is now holding trade and investment consultations there.

The Chen Te Business Institution started promoting investment and trade with North Korea early this year. It dispatched inspection teams to Pyongyang in March and June to consult on investment, raw material imports, and Taiwan-made export goods.

When the first economic inspection team visited North Korea in March, the Chen Te Business Institution brought back photographs of North Korean President Kim il-song, had words admiring him, and displayed the North Korean flag in major economic newspapers in Taiwan. The inspection team was warmly welcomed by Secretary Kim Chong-il. The Chen Te Business Institution plays a vanguard role in economic cooperation with North Korea.

Economic exchanges between Taiwan's China External Trade Development Council [CETDC] and North Korea have also been vitalized. The CETDC sent a businessmen's inspection team to North Korea early this year. Meanwhile, a seven-member North Korean high-level delegation, including Chairman Choe Chong-kun of the Korea National Industry Development Council, visited Taiwan in early June and signed an economic cooperation agreement with the CETDC.

As a result of this agreement, the CETDC will send its second inspection team to North Korea some time later this year.

North Issues Written Approval for Nampo Project

SK1310112592 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 13 Oct 92 p 7

[Text] It was learned on 12 October that the North Korean authorities gave written approval during the Nampo survey team's recent visit to North Korea to establish a light industrial complex in Nampo.

This has made it possible to build the Nampo complex and enables businessmen from our side to be stationed permanently in North Korea. The consortium of six businesses, including the Daewoo Group, Ssangbongul, and Hwasung, which participated in the Nampo survey work, plans to submit an application to ROK Government authorities next week for approval of the Nampo project. It plans to invest \$5 million in North Korea.

According to authorities, including the Economic Planning Board, the Korea Land Development Corporation, and business circles, North Korea's External Economic Committee (Chairman Kim Tal-hyon), which is in

charge of all external joint ventures, had official approval by the party and government for the Nampo joint venture project. The written approval was given to our side's official during the Nampo survey team's visit to North Korea.

An official said: This written approval guarantees all support needed to promote this project. It allows the partners in the joint project to be stationed permanently in North Korea, to visit there freely, and to take in materials.

He then added that as far as he knew, this is the first time for North Korea to issue such comprehensive written approval for a project.

Out of the original nine items, the Nampo project consortium, including the Daewoo Group, plans to promote shoes, bags, jackets, and blouses first. It will submit an application to the relevant authorities, such as the National Unification Board. The application will include a request for approval of \$5 million investment in a facility in North Korea. The money will be spent primarily on ROK-made machines.

Japanese Reinvestigation of 'Comfort Women' Issue Urged

SK1210034292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT 12 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea urged Japan in talks here Monday to reinvestigate whether the Imperial Army coerced Korean women into serving as sex slaves for Japanese soldiers during World War II.

Kim Sok-u, director-general of Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, conducted the annual working-level contact with his Japanese counterpart, Tadashi Ikeda. Kim demanded Japan make a full investigation before paying any compensation, officials here said.

Ikeda proposed discussing restitution measures, but Kim said Japan should conduct a further probe into whether Korean women were forcibly taken to frontline brothels.

Japan has formally admitted that its Army recruited Korean women to serve soldiers in brothels. South Korea claims some of these "comfort women" were abducted or taken by other forcible means, but Japan says it has found no evidence of coercion.

The two director-generals confirmed their countries' position that North Korea must accept inter-Korean simultaneous nuclear inspection in order to erase suspicion of secret nuclear development, the officials said.

On the eighth round of North Korea-Japan diplomatic normalization talks, expected early next month, Ikeda assured Kim that inter-Korean nuclear inspection and substantial progress in Seoul-Pyongyang relations would remain preconditions to establishing full ties.

Group Supports Investigation

SK1310092392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0750 GMT 13 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—Chongdaehyop, or the South Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Sexual Service by Japan, Tuesday came out against the Japanese Government's compensating comfort women "before admitting its crime."

In an open letter to the Japanese Government, Chongdaehyop said the Japanese Government's plan to create a "support" fund for Korean women who were forcibly taken to frontline brothels during World War II was a trick to cover up their crime with money.

It urged Japan to thoroughly inquire into the real truth of the comfort women before discussing ways to compensate them.

Chongdaehyop said the comfort women issue could not be settled with compensation or a support fund because the rehabilitation of individual rights guaranteed by international law could not be erased by state-to-state agreements.

In a letter to the South Korean Government, the council urged the government to launch an independent movement to find out the facts about the comfort women and to demand Tokyo make the same efforts.

It also urged the government to carry out a scientific review of the effectiveness of the 1965 South Korea-Japan Normalization Agreement and to include support for the surviving comfort women in the national budget.

Chongdaehyop leader Yun Chong-ok will visit Tokyo on Wednesday at the invitation of a Japanese women's body and explain the objections to Tokyo's move to lawmakers of the Liberal Democratic and Socialist Parties.

President No Denies Involvement in DLP Politics

SK1610090892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0820 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u's office on Friday denied as groundless newspaper reports that a certain presidential aide was trying to persuade some members of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] not to leave.

The vernacular daily TONG-A ILBO, in a front-page article, said a senior presidential aide had met with fence-sitting DLP members and urged them not to follow Pak Tae-chun out of the Democratic Liberal Party.

The TONG-A also said an unidentified presidential aide had met with Kim Yong-sam, presidential candidate of the DLP, to point out problems in his election strategy and offered his advice on how to correct them.

Kim Chung-kwon, chief presidential secretary for political affairs, said Friday he had not met with any of the

DLP lawmakers who had reportedly been considering leaving the party in the wake of the departure by Pak Tae-chun, who resigned as DLP chairman and left the party last week.

He said he has never met Reps. Pak Pom-chin, Cho Yong-chang and Kim In-yong as reported by the newspaper. He had met Rep. Pak Myong-hwan, but it was at a gathering of Korea University alumni called to celebrate the appointment of former professor at the college of law, Hyon Sung-chong, as prime minister. Kim said he only exchanged greetings with Rep. Pak.

Commenting on the so-called "No sim (true intention of No)," Kim said that although the president left the Democratic Liberal Party, he naturally wished the party he formed to "do well."

Kim was quick to add, however, it did not mean that it had nothing to do with his avowed intention to remain politically neutral in the presidential election.

Army, Police To Stay Neutral During Presidential Elections

SK1610093692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0734 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea's top army and police officers pledged Friday that they would make the best efforts to have their men and institutions keep a strictly neutral position regarding the presidential election this December. Gen. Kim Chin-yong, Army chief of staff, told a National Assembly Defense Committee hearing at Army headquarters in Kyeryongdae near Taejon that steps were needed to improve Korea's absentee voting system.

Absentee voting in the Armed Forces came under suspicion from the public in every election regardless of its results because of the peculiar circumstances of the Army, which had to manage its election procedures independently, he said. The top Army officer promised to find every possible method of conducting the presidential election in a strictly fair manner.

Asked if there were any private organizations within the Armed Forces, Kim said no.

In a related move, National Police Director Yi In-sop called a special meeting of local police chiefs Friday and asked them to root out sources of dispute by remaining neutral during the presidential election. Yi ordered the creation of police teams to deal exclusively with pre-campaign activities and investigate reports of election crimes rapidly and without favor.

The nation's highest police officer also said that the police should ensure fair election using all 3,577 police sub-stations nationwide and posting task forces in vulnerable areas. Equal protection should be given to each candidate, he said, adding that lawful and peaceful gatherings would be guaranteed fully but illegal assemblies would be blocked outright.

He warned against slackening social discipline just ahead of the presidential election. To that effect, Yi urged the police chiefs to clamp down on illegal construction in green belt areas, illegal entertainment establishments, use of public thoroughfares for private business by shopkeepers and suchlike, and environmental crimes.

Prosecutors To Increase Efforts To Quiet Social Disturbances

SK1310043692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Oct 92 p 3

[Text] Prosecutor's offices across the nation will double their efforts to take root out social disturbances by leftist elements and agents for North Korea in the face of the year-end presidential election.

The Prosecutor-General's Office [PGO] called a meeting of senior prosecutors from local branches yesterday and issued instructions to that effect, a PGO officer said.

Investigations will focus on rounding up those who were involved in a spy case in connection with a South Korean chapter of the North Korean Workers' Party. Sixty-two have been arrested on espionage charges and about 300 others are on the wanted list.

Five major categories to be cracked down on by the prosecution include the collection of state secrets and their leakage, the funneling of funds from anti-government organizations overseas and North Korean agents into pro-Pyongyang local organizations, unauthorized exchanges of correspondence and communication with North Korea, and production and distribution of pamphlets advocating socialism and North Korean ideology.

Those who attempt to disturb public order and security for the purpose of hampering the December presidential election will be subject to harsh punishment, according to prosecution officials.

Some labor and dissident organizations which turned out to have been allegedly connected with North Korean agents will be under closer surveillance.

Shops of electric and electronic goods, including computers, in Seoul will also be checked as those arrested in connection with recent spy case admitted having purchased some of their equipment for operation from electronic goods stores in Chonggyecheon street, central Seoul. Several wireless radio transmitters and receivers and other communication equipment were seized.

Ministers Agree To Form Task Force for Clean Elections

SK1410112892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—The prime minister will head a task force to ensure a clean presidential election in December, it was decided Wednesday.

In addition to the oversight committee, teams of prosecutors in 50 prosecutor's offices will investigate election-related crimes and 231 police stations will have squads detailed to prevent campaigning before the legal campaign period. The decision came in an inter-ministerial meeting presided over by Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong at the integrated government office building.

Participants were Home Minister Paek Kwang-hyon, Justice Minister Yi Chung-u, Government Administration Minister Yi Mun-sok, Information Minister Yu Hyok-in, Seoul Mayor Yi Sang-pae, Senior Presidential Secretaries Sim Tae-pyong and Kim Yu-hu, and the head of the Administrative Coordination Office of the Prime Minister's Office, Yun Song-tae.

Hyon said all government officials should do their best to remain neutral in the election and not cause arguments about government intervention.

Chong Chu-yong Proposes Televised Presidential Debate

SK1510032892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0218 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, leader of the Unification National Party, suggested Thursday a television debate among the three presidential candidates to carry out issue-oriented politics rather than concentrating on an unproductive power struggle.

Speaking at a plenary session of the National Assembly, Chong advanced the idea of a TV debate, apparently inspired by his American counterpart Ross Perot's reported success in a similar debate among the three U.S. presidential candidates. Chong, a multibillionaire and founder of the Hyundai Group who became a presidential candidate after creating the Unification National Party, is often compared with the Texas billionaire.

Harping on the economy, which he obviously believes is one of his strong points, Chong said that, if he were elected, his administration would supply apartments to all citizens at half their price in Seoul and two-thirds in provincial cities.

Chong said he would also carry out what is called a real name system in all financial transactions and in all purchases of real estate to help root out the nation's counter-productive underground economy and collusion between businessmen and politicians.

If Korea wants to recover its competitive strength in the world market, Chong said, the nation's economy should be led by the private sector and not by the government. A drastic change in economic policies was the most urgent task facing the nation, he said.

Chong promised that his administration would lower interest rates to 7 percent to 8 percent, raise per capita income to 20,000 U.S. dollars in five years, and lower value added and consumer taxes.

Chong said his government would also reflect the wishes of farmers to the maximum in its agricultural policy.

Commenting on the recent spy scandal involving the so-called South Korean Workers' Party, Chong said it would be very serious if reports of links between the spy ring and some South Korean politicians proved to be true.

The government should go to the bottom of this spy scandal and disclose all the pertinent facts it had been able to dig out so far, he said.

Welcoming the "neutral" cabinet that President No Tae-u has recently formed, Chong said he respected No, who he said had shown a spirit of devotion to the nation and democratic ideals by giving up his membership in the Democratic Liberal Party.

As for the problems related to reunification of the country, Chong said it has to be accomplished in the so-called German formula or by absorption by one of the other. He was quick to add, however, that unification by absorption did not mean South Korea absorbing North Korea through its economic strength.

Rather, it should mean the natural and gradual process of unification through adoption of a democratic and free market system by the North, he said.

Seeks New Party Members

SK1310053892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0217 GMT 13 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, declaring that the doors to his Unification National Party are always open, said Tuesday his party would welcome any individual or organization that wanted to join.

"It is unthinkable, however, there could be changes in the party leadership or existing structure by the participation of new politicians or groups," Chong said, hinting that any effort to set up a new political force would have to take place within the framework of the Unification National Party.

Chong also indicated that he had no intention of giving up his candidacy for president.

"No one has mastered the economy of this country by working as a laborer and a small businessman," the founder of one of the nation's largest conglomerates said. Talking to reporters, Chong said there could be political confusion if the country adopted a parliamentary form of government.

Energy Ministry Assesses Economic Impact of Unification

SK1410081592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0700 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—A unified Korea would import 62.7 percent of its energy, compared with the South's current level of 91.3 percent, thanks to rich coal deposits in the northern part of peninsula, the Energy and Resources Ministry said Wednesday.

North Korea has some nine times as much coal as the South with 11.7 billion tons of hard coal and 3 billion tons of soft coal, which South Korea lacks, the ministry said in a report filed with the National Assembly.

North Korea also has more hydroelectric power than the South with 2,310,000 kilowatts from power stations in Supung, Mt. Kumgang and Taechon.

A unified Korea would still need to import its oil and gas, however, as both North and South lack petroleum deposits.

North Korea consumed energy amounting to 38,119,000 TOE (Tons Oil Equivalent) in 1989, some 47 percent of South Korea's gross national energy consumption, and about 85 percent was used by industry.

Coal accounted for 84 percent of North Korea's energy, which is also made up of hydroelectric power and oil, and 13.8 percent of the energy was imported. Oil accounted for 9.3 percent of its energy in 1989.

In comparison, South Korea relied on imports for 85.5 percent of its energy in the same year, and 49.6 percent of the energy was oil.

North Korea has been exploring for oil and gas with technical support from Russia and Romania, but with no success. It has finished most of its hydroelectric power development projects except for a few minor works in mountainous areas, the ministry said.

Difficult Business Conditions Predicted for 1993

SK1210120492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0824 GMT 12 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—Business conditions in South Korea will remain difficult in 1993, according to a survey on corporate management and economic prospects for 1993 released Monday.

Over 70 percent of the managers and economists polled said management conditions would not improve next year and over 50 percent said firms would freeze facility investment or reduce it.

The Dongsuh Economic Research Institute and the KOREA ECONOMIC DAILY jointly polled 300 businessmen from large and small firms and 50 economists.

The pollees forecast that real economic growth would hover between 6 percent and 7 percent, the international

balance of payments deficit would amount to between 4 billion U.S. dollars and 6 billion dollars, and inflation would remain between 5 percent and 7 percent.

While 47.3 percent saw "no change" in business conditions next year, 23.5 percent expected them to worsen and 29.1 percent were optimistic.

Slumping domestic consumption topped the list of reasons for gloomy prospects with 25.5 percent, followed by sagging exports (19.6 percent), political instability (19.6 percent) and high interest rates (13.6 percent).

Concerning business performance next year, 32.3 percent said turnover would increase 10-20 percent, 17 percent said it would jump over 20 percent and 8.5 percent said it would drop. The average is 10.4-percent growth in sales.

Of the polled, 34.7 percent said that ordinary profit would remain at the same level as this year, 25.5 percent said it would advance more than 10 percent, 22.5 percent said it would climb less than 10 percent and 16.7 percent predicted losses.

A total of 38.8 percent predicted companies would expand their facility investment on a small scale, 34.1 percent said it would remain at last year's level and 21.1 percent forecast shrinkage, an indication that investment psychology has constricted.

Some 39 percent regarded the present economic conditions in South Korea as the readjustment stage of the business cycle and 58 percent thought they were due to structural stagnation.

While 41.7 percent said business conditions would improve gradually from late next year, 40.7 percent said they would start to pick up from 1994.

To overcome the slump, 30.6 percent called for selective measures to prevent corporate bankruptcies and the loosening of financial restrictions, 8.2 percent said the construction industry needed to be revitalized and 4.4 percent urged the government to expand financing.

Another 39.9 percent asked for tax benefits to spur investment instead of direct measures, proving that many business experts think indirect support is more effective in helping the economy.

Price stabilization by control of total demand was cited as the most desirable direction for economic policy next year by 24 percent, 23.8 percent put emphasis on export industries and 23.3 percent urged expansion of the inter-Korean economic cooperation.

Turning to general economic indicators, 36.5 percent guessed at 6-7 percent economic growth while the average was 6.3 percent and 36.3 percent expected inflation to be 5-7 percent but the average was 7.2 percent.

The current account deficit was expected to reach between 4 billion and 6 billion dollars by 34.7 percent and 7.1 percent anticipated a surplus.

Cabinet Approves Immigration, Economic Measures

SK1510065792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0259 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—Any person who mediates or encourages the illegal employment of a foreigner can be imprisoned up to three years or fined up to 10 million won (12,771 U.S. dollars) under an amendment to the immigration control law approved by the cabinet Thursday.

A foreigner who is denied entry, or allowed into Korea without a passport or a visa, or who is ordered to leave the country, can be detained in the immigration control office's protection center if it is believed he may flee. Fines for minor offenders of the immigration control law were raised to a maximum 1 million won from 200,000 won.

The amendment includes clauses on immigration control procedures for South Koreans' entry and exit through North Korea, and foreigners' travel to and from North Korea and their entry and exit of South Korea via North Korea to buttress the law on inter-Korean exchange and cooperation.

The cabinet passed a revision to the law on urban traffic readjustment that requires cities of over 100,000 to conduct traffic impact assessment before carrying out large projects. The fine for violation of traffic restrictions issued by the police was set at a maximum of 100,000 won.

The cabinet approved the government's plans to conclude an investment promotion protection pact with Paraguay, and economic, scientific and technological cooperation accords with Namibia and Angola.

Government Eases PRC Export Procedures

SK1510122092 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 13 Oct 92 p 6

[Text] The government has predicted that domestic companies will increase their export, import, and manufacturing investments in China as a result of the establishment of ROK-PRC diplomatic relations. The government has decided to greatly ease the export-import declaration and admission procedures to promote investments in China. It also plans to intensify its coordination role to deal with large investment projects that can affect domestic industries.

On the morning of 13 October, at the office of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Naedaemunro, Seoul, Trade and Industry Minister Han Pong-su attended a roundtable on the "Measures to Establish Trade Order With China" with delegates from nine

industry groups, including textile, shoe, automobile, and electronic companies. He said: The Ministry of Trade and Industry will directly coordinate large business projects according to the pre-declaration and admission procedures when domestic companies promote export, import, manufacturing investments in the northern district, including China. It will also restrain domestic companies from excessive competition by having the Northern Trade Coordination Committee coordinate details with which civil organizations cannot deal independently.

For this, the Ministry of Trade and Industry has revised the "Principles of Trade With Northern Countries," and decided to change trade regulations. First, companies which exported goods valued at more than \$1 million to foreign countries were previously required to report it to the government, but now they will have to report it only when their exports total more than \$5 million. Second, companies exporting more than \$300,000 in industrial facilities to foreign countries also used to have to report it to the government, but now they will have to report it only when they export more than \$2 million of these facilities. Third, companies need not to report to the government in advance when they invest in manufacturing areas. However, if the amount of investment exceeds \$5 million, companies should be given advanced permission by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Minister Han said: If companies violate the above-mentioned principles or alter the trade order with the northern district, the government will take steps against them by restricting their trade business and financial support.

Time Said Inappropriate for Real-Name Transactions

SK1410134592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0851 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—The government will introduce real-name financial transactions when incomes improve and the economy is sound, a Finance Ministry report said Wednesday.

It ruled out introduction now due to the deteriorating economy and lack of taxational and financial bases.

Concerning the demand of the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) for implementation of the system, the report said the ministry also believed that the system was a must to realize equality in distribution and economic justice.

However, implementation, though effective for economic and social progress, should be reviewed fully because of its effect on routine financial practices and impact on the economy, the report said.

Korea's socio-economic condition has not bettered since April 1990 when enforcement of the system was put on the shelf, the ministry said.

Government To Actively Support Renewable Energy*SK1210121992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0853 GMT
12 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—Renewable energy will increase from the current 0.4 percent of total energy consumed in South Korea to 3 percent by 2001 as the government pushes forward with the development of alternative sources, the Energy and Resources Ministry said Monday.

It would spend 146.4 billion won on establishing the basis for the practicable use of substitute fuel by 1996 and 303.3 billion won on attaining self-reliant technology by 2001, a ministry official said.

Research and development of substitute energy, especially solar and recyclable sources, will be financed out of state coffers and funds for oil exploitation, he said.

Of the confirmed potential resources of substitute energy, amounting to 2,816.2 million TOE (Tons Oil Equivalent), and the renewable resources using current technology, totaling 19.57 million TOE, Korea actually made use of just 412,631 TOE.

Usage of substitute energy has risen an annual average 36.2 percent in the past four years, but accounted for just 0.4 percent of national energy consumption of 103,378,000 toe last year, he said.

In contrast, Japan already met 1.4 percent of gross energy consumption with substitute energy in 1988 and substitute energy, including hydraulic power, accounts for more than 10 percent of consumption in the United States.

Noting the value of developing substitute energy for a resource-poor country to reduce overseas reliance, the ministry has mapped out a long-term but detailed plan for the development of alternative energy, the official said.

In addition, a pilot estate using substitute energy will be built in Cheju and loans at 5 percent interest repayable over five years with a three-year grace period will be granted for the construction of facilities using substitute energy.

Trading Partners Demand Tariff Reductions at Uruguay Round*SK1410021592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0004 GMT
14 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea's major trading partners are demanding tariff reductions on more than 2,800 items through the Uruguay Round negotiations, Finance Ministry officials said Wednesday.

Twelve countries, including the United States, Australia, Japan and the European Community, are demanding

tariff cuts on 2,814 items ranging from beef and farm products to steel and cosmetics, the officials said.

New Zealand, Switzerland, Canada, Finland, Sweden, Austria, Thailand and Yugoslavia are the other eight countries demanding lower tariffs against South Korea, they said. Australia is the biggest demander, listing 628 products, while the United States has asked for 546, Japan, 474, the EC, 363, New Zealand, 356, and Switzerland, 150.

Korean tariffs are 12.7 percent to 27.7 percent, but these trading partners are calling for no tariffs or 10 percent at the highest.

Envoy To Discuss NAFTA With Argentina, Chile*SK1210063792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0552 GMT
12 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—The Korea-Argentina and Korea-Chile joint commissions will meet in Buenos Aires and Santiago on Oct. 15-16 and Oct. 19-20, respectively, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The commissions will deal with economic cooperation measures such as procurement of natural resources, trade promotion and joint investment, a ministry spokesman said. Ambassador-at-large Yi Sang-chin will head the delegation, which is to collect information on the North America Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA] and the emerging South American common market, he said.

Investors Attracted to Southeast Asia, Northern Countries*SK1210034492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT
12 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korean companies, going with the tide of economic blocs and greater trade opportunities in northern countries, are speeding up their advance abroad, the Korea stock exchange said Monday.

Korean companies have begun 44 overseas projects costing 196.54 million U.S. dollars so far this year, according to a report by the stock exchange on overseas expansion by listed companies.

It said 22 companies have put 79.39 million dollars into 20 joint ventures, 16 companies have set up 16 locally incorporated subsidiaries at a cost of 102.09 million dollars, and six companies have bought 15.07 million dollars of stock in six foreign companies. In addition, 40 affiliates of business groups are in the process of making overseas investments, an exchange official said.

More than half the overseas investments made or in the process are in China, North Korea, Vietnam, the former Soviet Union, and Hungary. India, Sri Lanka and Southeast countries also attract considerable number of companies, the official said.

Setting up manufacturing plants and sales networks, securing low-cost manpower, developing export lines and acquiring advanced technology are the reasons to invest abroad, he said.

Economic Cooperation Meeting Rescheduled for Nov

SK1210012192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0047 GMT
12 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—The non-governmental Council for Economic Cooperation in Northeast Asia failed to meet in Pyongyang as scheduled last month because of Seoul-Beijing diplomatic normalization the previous month, Korean business sources said Monday.

The meeting was scrapped as communication among the participants was disrupted after South Korea and China cemented diplomatic relations on Aug. 24, the sources said.

Instead, the council's second gathering is likely to be in Mongolia or Russia next month, they said.

The regional economic body, membered by industrialists from the two Koreas, China, Japan, Russia and Mongolia, was inaugurated in Beijing in December last year to discuss multilateral regional cooperation projects such as Tuman river development.

Wei Yuming, head of China's economic research institute, and Yi Song-nok, chairman of North Korea's trade promotion committee, hold the top two posts on the council.

Yi myong-pak, a former chairman of Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. and participant in the inaugural meeting, said North Korea was trying to use the organization to seek external economic cooperation.

Technology Academy Considering Beijing, Moscow Offices

SK1210005892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0041 GMT
12 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—The state-run Korea Academy of Industrial Technology is considering opening an office in Beijing to boost cooperation with China in aircraft parts and materials technology, the academy reported to the National Assembly Monday.

In the report submitted for the assembly's inspection of its operation, the academy said it was also promoting the establishment of an office in Moscow for technological cooperation with Russia.

Foreign Investors 'Fleeing' Domestic Market

SK1110013592 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English 11 Oct 92 p 8

[Text] A growing number of foreign investors, apparently discouraged by the worsened investment climate in Korea including such factors as high labor costs and the overall economic slump, are fleeing the domestic market with the withdrawal of their investment principal rising rapidly.

The Ministry of Finance said yesterday that foreign investment in Korea amounted to a mere \$569 million in the first eight months of the year, less than half the \$1.173 billion recorded in the same period of 1991.

On the contrary, the withdrawal of investments in Korea amounted to \$89.4 million in the first half of 1992, representing nearly four times the \$23.8 million marked in the same period of last year.

Foreign investment in the service industry dropped by 41.6 percent from \$267 million in the January-August period of 1991 to \$156 million this year.

Investments in the manufacturing sector also plummeted by 54.3 percent from \$90.5 million to \$413 million in the same period.

The comparable investment decrease rate was 9.5 percent for transportation equipment, 22.4 percent for foodstuffs, 28.3 percent for electric-electronics products, and 43 percent for machinery.

The investment pattern of foreigners has also shifted significantly with their equity holding ratio rising above the past 50 percent.

The portion of investments with a foreign equity ratio of less than 50 percent dropped from 49.9 percent of total foreign investments in 1990 to 45.9 percent in 1991, and further to 35.4 percent this year.

Investments with the foreigners' portion reaching between 51 percent and 100 percent accounted for 64.6 percent of the total in 1992, compared with 54.1 percent in 1991 and 50.1 percent in 1990.

Thuringia Seeks Korean Investment

SK1510082292 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English 15 Oct 92 p 8

[By staff reporter Kang Sok-chae]

[Text] The new German state of Thuringia, with its central location in respect to transport facilities, seeks Korean investment in high-tech sectors, a German executive said yesterday.

"Our good traffic and communications systems along with ample, well-educated work force are among the attractions for foreign investment in Thuringia," said Bernhard W. Strelow, executive vice president of the

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Gera, in an interview. The German, who led a 21-member business delegation, arrived here Sunday for a five-day visit.

"This is our first Asian tour. We are here to introduce our state to individual Korean companies," Strelow said, adding that "I found that we can do business together."

Among promising fields for investment are such high-tech industries as electronics, precision engineering and optics, mechanical engineering, electric engineering and ceramics, he said.

The eastern part of Thuringia, or the district covered by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of East Thuringia which is located at Gera, offers a broad spectrum of economic and natural resources which would allow for active participation in the economic upswing to be expected in the mid-German region in the future, the German said.

Investment grants and special depreciations will create developmental preferences in comparison with other former East German states, he added.

He said the productivity per industrial worker doubled from January 1991 to February 1992.

"It is a fact that our state is suffering from high inflation hovering around 20 percent, but the problem can be solved in a short time as a growing number of new factories are coming into being," Strelow said, adding that the productivity of the new factories is higher than that of other firms.

He said no East Asian companies have entered into the German state but some projects are under negotiation between Thuringia and Japanese firms.

German Firms Seek Technical Links With Small Firms

SK1310043492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT 13 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—German companies are increasingly seeking technical tie-ups with small- and medium-sized firms in South Korea, the Korea Small and Medium Industry Promotion Corp. (SMIPC) said Tuesday.

It said 52 companies based in North Rhine-Westphalia have conveyed requests for technical cooperation with Korean small- and medium-sized firms to SMIPC's Center for Foreign Investment Services (CFIS), also requesting recommendations, officials at SMIPC said.

A delegation has been formed of businessmen from small- and medium-sized companies, to visit the German state for 12 days from Nov. 7 on an industrial tour and to confirm tie-ups, the officials said.

The 52 companies specialize in some 30 industrial areas, including incinerators, recycling facilities, automatic

storage systems, pollution measuring apparatus, special metal processing and plastic molding systems, they said.

Belgian Foreign Minister Agrees To Expand Ties

SK1310032492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0146 GMT 13 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok met with his Belgian counterpart, Willy Claes, Tuesday and they discussed recent political developments in Europe and Northeast Asia, a ministry spokesman said.

The two foreign ministers agreed in principle to expand bilateral cooperative ties in the economic field in the face of a unified European Common Market.

Export Insurance Corporation To Guarantee Exporter's Credit

SK1310032292 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Oct 92 p 9

[Text] An export credit guarantee system will be introduced beginning Nov. 1, in order to help business concerns which are unable to have their export bills discounted by banks after shipments of their products.

According to the ministry, the Korea Export Insurance Corporation (KEIC) will guarantee the payment of 90 percent of the amount discount export bills of enterprises within two months after the businesses concerned ship their goods to foreign buyers.

The new system will be applied to large enterprises whose annual exports are more than \$3 million with an experience of more than three years in sales abroad and small and medium businesses whose yearly exports are more than \$300,000 with an experience of more than two years in shipments.

In particular, large business concerns will be obligated to pay 0.6 percent of what they receive from banks on the discount of their export bills to the KEIC.

The rate will be further reduced by 30 percent for small and medium companies, the ministry said.

The ministry predicted that the new system would increase the nation's exports this year by more than \$400 million.

Financial Structure of Major Business Groups Deteriorating

SK1310123492 Seoul YONHAP in English 1034 GMT 13 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—The financial structure of 30 major business groups continues to deteriorate and that of core industries of these groups is even worse, it was disclosed Tuesday.

According to a material furnished by the Finance Ministry to the National Assembly, the total debts of those listed corporates belonging to the 30 major business groups subject to credit control amounted to 80,218.1 billion won as of the end of last year, an amount representing a rise of 29.2 percent in a year over the end of the previous year when it stood at 62,068.2 billion won.

The equity capital of these firms was upped by 22.3 percent in the one-year period from 18,953.5 billion won to 23,188.4 billion won.

Accordingly, the average debt ratio of these listed corporates increased from 327.4 percent to 348.7 percent, the Finance Ministry figure showed. The ratio is unfavorably compared with the average 245.1 percent debt ratio of listed manufacturing industries as of the end of last year.

The debt ratio of 75 core industries of the 30 business groups reached 368.9 percent as of the end of last year, indicating that core industries were rather leading their groups' deterioration of financial structure.

By group, Hyundai Group had the largest debt of 11,629.6 billion won, followed by Samsung Group with 10,106.3 billion won, Daewoo with 7,637.9 billion won, Lucky-Goldstar with 7,625.5 billion won and Hanjin with 6,300.4 billion won.

As for last year's sales by the listed corporates of the 30 major groups, Hyundai Group topped the list with 23,400 billion won followed by Samsung with 21,100 billion won, Lucky-Goldstar with 12,100 billion won, Daewoo with 9,900 billion won and Sunkyong with 6,800 billion won.

When it came to net profits for the current period, Samsung had the largest profit of 181.2 billion won followed by Hyundai with 165.9 billion won, Ssangyong with 96.1 billion, Daewoo with 86.5 billion won and Kia with 50.6 billion won.

Meanwhile, the borrowings obtained from banks by the 30 major groups amounted to 13,094.9 billion won as of the end of last June based on those corporates subject to credit ceilings or 9.7 percent of the whole bank credits totaling 134,306.6 billion won.

But, when the borrowings obtained by these groups' core industries not subject to credit control and other credits such as those obtained by overseas branches and financing for exports on a deferred payment basis, which are estimated at some 15,000 billion won in all, are included, the total borrowings by the 30 groups are known to reach at the 30,000 billion level.

Customs Officers Deny Entry of Produce

*SK1410033592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT
14 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—Customs officers denied entry to 1,903 tons of produce in January-July because it had excessive levels of agricultural chemicals, up from eight tons a year earlier, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said Wednesday.

Customs officers turned back cayenne from China, Turkey and Myanmar, and dehydrated carrots and stone leeks from China, according to a ministry report to the National Assembly.

The Turkish cayenne contained 0.72 ppm of EPN [as received], over seven times the permissible level of 0.1 ppm, and the Chinese cayenne had 0.42 ppm of EPN. The dehydrated carrots from China had levels of dieldrin over six times the limit of 0.01 ppm and endrin nearly three times the level of 0.01 ppm.

Beef and pork failing the quarantine and hygiene tests rose to 539 tons at the end of August, up from 452 tons for all of 1991.

Teachers Union Submits Petition to National Assembly

*SK1410042692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0252 GMT
14 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—The National Teachers Union [NTU], Chongyojo, presented a petition with 1 million signatures to the National Assembly Wednesday, asking for the reinstatement of NTU members to their teaching positions and legal recognition of the teachers union.

The petition submitted by the outlawed group said that legal recognition of Chongyojo as a labor union and the reinstatement of ousted teachers were the needs of the times as well as a barometer of the will to reform.

Chongyojo urged the National Assembly to pass legislation to give fired NTU teachers their jobs back, set up an educational reform committee with members from the Education Ministry, Chongyojo and the Korean Federation of Education Associations.

It also urged a guarantee of the teachers' right of unity through ratification of all treaties of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

Foreign Bank Capital Increases Markedly

*SK1410134792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0914 GMT
14 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—Foreign banks in South Korea are using increasing sum of money for their business here, raising concern about their encroaching on the Korean financial market.

According to a Finance Ministry report to the National Assembly Wednesday, paid-in capital (their funds from abroad) peaked at 506.9 billion won (645 million U.S. dollars) in August, up 23 percent from 409 billion won at the end of last year.

The total was 1,013.1 billion won (1,292 million dollars) as of August when swap funds (repurchases of funds at privileged rates from the Bank of Korea) are added, up 4.5 percent from 969.1 billion won last year-end.

The increase comes after foreign bankers expressed their wish to expand business here, especially through Korea-U.S. financial policy meetings, the ministry said.

Bankers Trust Company's Seoul branch had the most funds at 29 billion won, followed by Citibank with 27 billion won and Chase Manhattan with 22 billion won.

Industry Says Latin America Largest Color TV Market

SK1510031392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0109 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—Exports of color television sets to Latin America are up sharply, making the region Korea's largest market, industry sources said Thursday.

Top Korean television makers Samsung, Goldstar and Daewoo have boosted exports to the region between 55 percent and 80 percent in the first nine months of 1992 over a year earlier, lifting them to over 30 percent of their total television exports, the sources said.

As a result, Europe and North America dropped to 20 percent and 15 percent, respectively, of their exports.

Goldstar took the lead in exports to the region with 180 million U.S. dollars worth of television sets during the first nine months of this year, up 80 percent from the previous year, while Samsung sold 160 million dollars worth, up 55.7 percent.

Daewoo exported 160 million dollars worth of television sets to the region during the same period, up 75 percent from a year earlier.

The drastic increase in television exports to the region is primarily thanks to the rising demand for home appliances as the region is still at a primitive stage for the products, the sources explained.

However, the European and North American regions have already seen over 100 percent distribution of color television sets, which consequently reduces exports.

During the first nine months of this year, exports of home appliances to Latin America were 360 million dollars for Goldstar, up 64 percent; 340 million dollars for Samsung, up 47.8 percent; and 238 million dollars for Daewoo, up 62 percent.

Dispersed Family Contacts Via Third Countries Viewed

SK1110030392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 11 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—As chances appear slim for any immediate resolution of the dispersed family issue due to North Korea's negativism, the government is now weighing the possibility of realizing family contacts through third countries like China, it was learned Sunday.

A government official said the new policy came to be examined as families dispersed in the South and the North of Korea could exchange letters or even meet via third countries in more than 200 instances since 1989.

If the plan were actually promoted, exchange of letters or meeting could be arranged through Korean residents or other intermediaries in third countries, he said.

Despite the effectuation of the basic South-North agreement early in the year, no clues have thus far been found to the early resolution of the dispersed family question, one of the most acute questions facing the two Koreas, due to the North's negativism, the official added.

Trade Increase Boosts Air Travel to PRC, SRV

SK1510033992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0230 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—Air travel to China and Vietnam from South Korea is up due to a rise in trade, while ridership on the Korea-Japan route has fallen, airline sources said Thursday.

Korean Air (KAL), which has flown between Seoul and Shanghai once a week since February, saw passengers jump more than two-fold to 8,400 during the third quarter of the year from 3,700 in the second quarter.

KAL carried 3,500 passengers from Seoul to Vietnam between July and September, up from 1,800 of the previous past three months and 600 in the first quarter.

Ridership on Asiana Airlines, which has been flying between Seoul and Tianjin once a week since March, was boosted to 9,500 during July-September from 5,200 in the second quarter. Both flag-carriers are mobilizing charter planes to meet the increasing demand, the sources said.

KAL's Korea-Japan routes lost 0.9 percent on ridership to 1,733,000 as of September from 1,749,000 in the same period last year.

Liberalization of travel to China, Vietnam and the Commonwealth of Independent States was reducing occupancy on flights to Japan and America, an Asiana Airlines official said.

North Slows Family Visits by Koreans in South America

*SK1610012692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0058 GMT
16 Oct 92*

[Text] Buenos Aires, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—North Korea has sharply cut family visits by Koreans living in South America for no clear reasons, particularly after China and South Korea normalized relations in August, visit aspirants said Thursday.

Three residents of Argentina were recently permitted to visit relatives in North Korea out of 49 people who applied, and only two visits from Brazil were approved. It was expected that 30 of the 49 people who had applied through a Korean organization in Canada would get permissions, but only three got them.

Family visits by Korean residents of Argentina began in June 1991 with 42 people. Just 19 out of 30 applications were approved in March this year.

Foreign Ministry Tallies Cost of No Tae-u's Overseas Trips

*SK1510083992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0624 GMT
15 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean taxpayers footed the 45.22 billion-won bill for President No Tae-u's 10 overseas trips since taking office, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

It cost them 3.19 billion won for the president's visit to China in September. His two trips to the United Nations to attend the General Assembly cost nearly 7.21 billion won—the first in October 1988 cost 2.39 billion won and the second in September this year 4.81 billion won.

No's most expensive excursion was a 6.62 billion-won tour of Germany, Hungary, Britain and France in November 1989, the ministry said in a report to the National Assembly.

Defectors Describe 'Concentration Camps'

*SK1310123892 Seoul YONHAP in English 1005 GMT
13 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—Two North Korean youths who defected to the South via a foreign freighter last August said here Tuesday they were once held at one of the North Korean concentration camps and the life at camps was utterly miserable with most of inmates suffering from malnutrition and other diseases.

In a press conference at the press center in Seoul, the pair said they were held at the No. 2915 camp for political prisoners (commonly referred to as No. 15 management center) located at Yodok County, South Hamkyong Province.

The duo were An Hyok, age 24, formerly of Kwail-up, Kwail County, South Hwanghae Province, and Kang

Chol-hwan, 24, Chungtok-tong, Pyongsong city, South Pyong-an Province. They said that the No. 15 center had about 50,000 inmates, mostly those branded as "vicious land owners" and "pro-Japanese," and religiously active persons, those who collaborated with the South Korean forces during the Korean war and anti-party sectarians and their families.

An Hyok said he served at the camp for nearly three years from June 1986 to February 1989 after he was caught as a "spy" during his crossing of the Chinese border back to the North after he smuggled himself to China.

The other man, Kang, said he was held at the camp for ten years from August 1977 to February 1987 along with his families after his grandfather, who was one of the former Korean residents in Japan repatriated to North Korea, was arrested on espionage charges.

The duo fled to China on last March 5 and stayed at their relatives' in China before they clandestinely boarded a foreign vessel toward the close of last August and were turned over to a South Korean maritime police boat at high seas. An Hyok said that in 1986 he visited a friend of his living at Hyesan along the China border where he said he learned of an economically well-off China and crossed a shallow river into China. While he was returning to Hyesan from China, he was caught by the people's constabulary unit as a spy, he said.

Asked how he could travel to Hyesan in a circumstance where personal travel is strictly controlled, An replied those aged 17 or younger had no citizens card and their travel was relatively free.

An said when he was freed from the camp in February 1989 he weighed about 40kg. After his release he lived for seven months at the home of Kang who was set free earlier.

He said he later found a nice job but he was soon expelled due to pressure from the State Security Ministry.

During his stay at the camp, he was beaten almost daily at a basement cell so hard that his nose bone was broken, An said.

Foreigners Under Investigation for Habitual Theft

*SK1410075392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0536 GMT
14 Oct 92*

[Text] Kwangju, South Korea, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—Three Jordanians, a Kenyan and a Syrian are under investigation on suspicion of habitual theft, South Korean police announced Wednesday.

A spokesman for the Tamyang County police in South Cholla Province identified the five as Aziz Ibrahim, 33, his wife Asmahan Sharif, 34, and his sister Amirah Yosef, 20, of Jordan, Jamal Hassan, 32, of Kenya and Najah Swidan, 20, of Syria. The five are suspected of

stealing two 500,000-won checks from a rice mill in Pongsan, a village in Tamyang, on Tuesday morning.

Police are making further inquiries into other crimes suspected to have been committed by the five.

Firm Begins Selling U.S.-Made Toyotas in Domestic Market

*SK1510032292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT
15 Oct 92*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—A car import firm in Seoul has begun selling Japanese Toyotas made in the

United States. Auto World Ltd. is offering 2.2 liter and 3 liter models of the Camry produced on Toyota assembly lines in America.

The sticker price for the smaller Camry is 34.1 million won and the 3 liter model, which has the same engine as the Toyota Lexus ES 300, carries a price of 39.6 million won. This compares with 34.9 million won for the 3 liter Grandeur just introduced by Hyundai.

Auto World President Sim Sang-ki declined Wednesday to reveal the number of cars sold since sales began this month, but said he would expand the sales network based on demand. Industry analysts predict that sales of Japanese cars in the Korean market will take off.

Burma

Convening Commission Forms Supervisory Committee

BK1510154792 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] The convening commission for the national convention of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] in its Letter No. 3/NYILAGAN/1 SAMA, dated 15 October 1992, has formed the Supervisory Committee for Convening the National Convention.

Subject: Formation of the Supervisory Committee for Convening the National Convention.

A. The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in order to successfully and systematically hold the National Convention, has formed the National Convention Convening Commission in its Order No. 13/92, dated 2 October 1992.

In accordance with the authority vested in paragraph 6 of that order, the National Convention Convening Commission, in order to carry out its duties and functions more effectively, has formed the the Supervisory Committee for Convening the National Convention with the following members.

The Supervisory Committee for Convening the National Convention:

1. Brigadier General Tin Aye, inspector general of the Ministry of Defense, as chairman;
2. Brig. Gen. Tha Htay, director of supply and transport of the Ministry of Defense, as vice chairman;
3. U Hlaing Win, deputy minister for mines, as vice chairman;
4. Brig. Gen. Win Tin, deputy minister for planning and finance, as member;
5. Brig. Gen. Kyaw Win, director of medical services of the Ministry of Defense, as member;
6. Colonel Than Tun, vice adjutant general of the Ministry of Defense, as member;
7. Col. Sein Lin, director of signals of Ministry of Defense, as member;
8. Lieutenant Colonel Than Nyunt, deputy minister for home affairs, as member;
9. U Than Aung, deputy minister for cooperatives, as member;
10. U Win Naing, deputy minister for trade, as member;
11. Colonel Than Zin, deputy minister for health, as member;
12. U San Wai, deputy minister for transport, as member;
13. U Tin Tun, deputy minister for energy, as member;
14. Col. Sein Htwa, commander of No. 77 light Infantry division, as member;
15. Col. Thura Myint Maung, deputy commander of Rangoon Military Command, as member;
16. Lt. Col. Kyaw Win, deputy director of the Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence, as member;

17. Lt. Col. Pe Nyein, director general of the SLORC office, as member;
18. U Soe Tint, director general of the Office of the Government, as member;
19. U Khin Kywe, director general of the Office of the President, as member;
20. Col. Khin Latt, director of Defense Services Records Office, as member;
21. Col. Aung Than, vice inspector general of the Ministry of Defense, as member;
22. Police Major General San Thein, director general of People's Police Force, as member;
23. U Khin Tun, director general of the Bureau of Special Investigation, as member;
24. U Than Aung, secretary of Rangoon City Development Committee, as member;
25. Daw Khin Than Tin, director general of Attorney General's Office, as member;
26. U Tint Wai Aye, managing director of Myanmar Hotels and Tours, as member;
27. U Maung Maung, managing director of Restaurants and Beverages Enterprise, as member;
28. U Win Sein, director general of Information and Public Relations Department, as member;
29. U Kyaw Myint, managing director of Myanmar Railways, as member;
30. U Aung Thein, managing director of Road Transport, as member;
31. U Shwe Tun Maung, managing director of public works, as member;
32. U Htay Aung, managing director of Myanmar posts and telecommunications, as member;
33. U Myint Thein, director of People's Assembly Office, as member;
34. Lt. Col. Than Tin, general staff officer [GSO] grade-I from the Office of the Director of Supplies, as secretary;
35. Major Hla Win, GSO grade-II from the Office of the Director of Supplies, as joint secretary-1;
36. Captain Thein Myint, GSO grade-III from the Office of the Inspector General, as joint secretary-2.

B. The duties of the Supervisory Committee for Convening the National Convention are as follows:

1. To perform activities related to the security matters of the National Convention and delegates;
2. To perform activities related to the lodging and reception matters of the delegates;
3. To perform activities related to the transportation affairs of the delegates;
4. To perform activities related to the food and meals of the delegates;
5. To perform activities related to the entertainment and welfare of the delegates;
6. To perform activities related to the health matters of the delegates;
7. To perform activities related to the preparation of the convention venue and renovation of hostels for the delegates;
8. To perform activities related to the installation matters of the public address system;

9. To perform activities related to the news and information matters of the national convention;
10. To perform activities related to the photo and movie documentation of the national convention;
11. To perform activities related to the seating plan for the delegates;
12. To perform activities related to the printing and distribution of commemorative postage stamps and postcards;
13. To perform activities related to the disbursement of travelling and daily allowances for the delegates;

C. The Supervisory Committee for Convening the National Convention may:

1. Expand the committee with more members as needed;
2. Form subcommittees as needed for effective administration and support;
3. Have the right to obtain assistance from various government departments and organizations for the success of the convention;
4. Pay out expenses for the committee, apart from those expenses paid for by various government departments and organizations, out of the fund of the Office of the People's Assembly,

Signed: Myo Nyunt, major general, chairman of the Convening Commission for the National Convention.

Karen Rebels: Heavy Fighting Despite Cease-Fire

BK0710040992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Oct 92 p A4

[Text] Anti-Rangoon Karen guerrillas have rejected the government's proclaimed military ceasefire, saying the fighting has continued unabated and that the Burmese Army is stockpiling for new dry-season operations.

Saw Ba Thin, general secretary of the Karen National Union (KNU), made the comments one day after a speech in the UN General Assembly by U Ohn Gyaw, the foreign minister of the Burmese military junta in Rangoon, officially known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC).

Ohn Gyaw told the Assembly that SLORC had in April this year announced the "suspension of all offensive operations in Kayin (Karen) State and other parts of the country to consolidate national solidarity and unity," and was moving towards establishing a multiparty democratic nation.

However, Ba Thin, speaking in an interview yesterday, said "nothing has changed" since the announcement of the ceasefire and suspension of military campaigns against the Karen forces.

He said that fighting has been going on non-stop since July in Papun area, and that the KNU received information that the Burmese Army has both renewed its plan to attack the Karen headquarters of Manerplaw and reinforced captured Hill 402, better known as Sleeping Dog Hill, to use as a base for the offensive, he said.

The mountain, which lies about 10 kilometres northwest of Manerplaw, used to serve as the Karen's first line of defence.

The Karen leader said SLORC had at least two reasons to declare the unilateral ceasefire—to lessen international political pressure, and to save face as it made a temporary withdrawal so its troops, who were badly demoralized by high casualties, could have a break.

He added that the advance of the monsoon season, severe casualties and arms and ammunition supply problems had also forced SLORC's troops to retreat and abandon their initial plan to crush the Karen and capture Manerplaw by May.

The Burmese Army was said to have suffered as high as 6,000 casualties in the five-month Manerplaw offensive which began in November last year.

About 30,000 Burmese troops were recruited to attack a string of Karen strongholds along the eastern border with Thailand. Ba Thin said the KNU had at that time about 3,000 forces defending the headquarters area and about 500 of them were killed or wounded in battle.

Burma, rich in resources but one of the world's poorest nations, has been plagued with over four decades of civil wars since independence in 1948.

Successive Burmese military governments have administered the country with rigid authoritarian rule and fought the numerous border-based armed ethnic groups demanding freedom and equal rights with the majority Burmans. Rangoon has rebuffed any peaceful negotiations to end one of the world's longest running and bloodiest conflicts, and instead demanded that the ethnic guerrillas lay down their arms and surrender—a condition rejected by the ethnic groups.

SLORC, said Ba Thin, had "unofficially" sent "several messengers" to contact Karen battalion commanders to woo them to stop fighting, a conditional overture which was turned down by the KNU.

The Karen, like other ethnic brothers-in-arms in the National Democratic Front and the Democratic Alliance of Burma, would not accept any conditional proposal for negotiations, and any peace talks would have to take place outside Burma, in the presence of the United Nations.

Ba Thin also rejected a series of changes taken up by SLORC, including the call for a national convention to draft a new constitution.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Study of Security Council Restructure Proposed

BK1510094092 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 Oct 92 p 10

[Text] KUALA LUMPUR, Sat.—Malaysia wants the United Nations to establish a working group to undertake a study to reform and restructure the Security Council.

Malaysia's Permanent Envoy to the UN, Tan Sri Razali Ismail, said the working group should be established before the end of the current UN General Assembly (the 47th) and submit its report at the next session.

He said it was imperative to review the Security Council's role in view of the vast changes which had taken place in the international scene with the end of the Cold War.

Malaysia believed the Security Council should be expanded to reflect the general membership of the UN which has increased to 179 countries and the need for transparency, accountability and democratisation in its works.

The veto powers given to the five permanent members of the council when it was first established after the Second World War had also become "highly suspect".

Malaysia believed the structure of the council was not a viable vehicle to undertake the increased workload and role as visualised by the UN Secretary-General in his report "An Agenda for Peace".

(The document is part of UN secretary-general Butrus Butrus-Ghali's report on the work of the UN which deals with the role of the council and the secretary-general in the pursuit of peace and security.)

Razali said Malaysia believed there had to be greater harmonisation on the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly to maintain peace and security.

"We must not have a situation where the views of the general membership of the UN are ignored and the council chooses to apply principles only when it suits the interests and convenience of certain prominent members.

"We are not happy over the absence of a balanced mutually reinforcing relationship between the council and the General Assembly," he said at the plenary session "Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organisation," yesterday.

A copy of his speech was released here today.

Razali said Malaysia was strongly committed to enhance the UN capacity in preventive diplomacy peacekeeping and peacemaking.

Malaysia believed the General Assembly should play an influential role including greater consultations between its members and the council on peace and security matters.

"The bottomline is that the UN of the future must clearly be on the side of the majority, attentive and caring to the problems of the world majority.

"Any change in the UN must result in maximising the opportunity for the South and the Third World to place their problems for attention and redress at the UN," he said.

On the Secretary-General's proposal on finance, Razali said member states should make prompt payments for peacekeeping operations because it was a collective responsibility.

Need Stressed To Monitor Ships in Straits

BK0710102892 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 7 Oct 92

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has stressed the need to have an arrangement to monitor (?the passage) of ships in the Straits of Malacca. This is to ensure that not only the countries of the region are burdened with the cost of maintaining security and safety of the waterway. The prime minister said he would discuss with the other two littoral states—Indonesia and Singapore—on the form of arrangement to be introduced. The arrangement should be fair to all quarters, including shippers and other countries. Without any arrangement, it is a lawless situation in the straits.

He was speaking to reporters at the RMAF [Royal Malaysian Air Force] base in Kuala Lumpur on his return from Brunei Darussalam where he attended the 25th anniversary celebrations of the ascension to the throne of Sultan Hassanah Bolkiah. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said the lawless situation had put the brunt on the littoral states to bear the high cost of maintaining security in the straits. They also have to fight oil spills after an accident. It is for this reason that Malaysia has often stressed the importance of imposing a levy for ships passing through the straits. Although the Straits of Malacca is an international waterway and everyone has the right to use it, Malaysia suffers whenever there is a mishap. As an international waterway, the straits should be made an international responsibility. Users of the straits should help meet the cost of maintaining security and cleanliness of the waterway.

Austria's Imposition of 'Eco-Labeling' Viewed

BK1610075792 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 12 Oct 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Malaysia hopes that good sense and fair play will prevail in the controversy over eco-labeling. About two weeks ago, the Malaysian community was perturbed to

hear that Austria had imposed mandatory labeling on all imported tropical timber and tropical timber products.

Malaysia is affected by this unilateral imposition as it is a leading exporter of tropical timber and timber products. The reason given may seem to be sensitivity to the environment. But it can also be interpreted as a subtle form of code restriction or, at least, the Austrian authorities must concede that it does not have such an effect. The Malaysian Government has pointed out that this can be a very dangerous precedent. The very fact that the target is tropical timber while temperate forest products are excluded from the labeling makes this a clear case of discrimination.

Malaysian Primary Industries Minister Dr. Lim Keng Yaik had pointed out that there is a marked tendency for some groups to single out tropical timber producers as the principal offenders. Overall concern for sustainable development should cover not just the state of tropical forests but all forests—mainly temperate forests of Europe.

The Austrian Government has brought in a rather elaborate law to regulate the export of timber and timber products into its territory. The net effect is to deter or discourage any firm from exporting timber products to Austria. This is against the very spirit of international trade. It is also a new form of protectionism. The whole matter is serious enough to merit fuller discussion. The 14th meeting of ASEAN ministers of agriculture took note of the Austrian action. It had recorded its regret over the policy announced in Vienna. The ASEAN agriculture ministers have pledged their commitment to work for a better standard of living for their rural population. For this, they will do everything possible to promote greater agricultural productivity.

It is also worth noting that the Austrian Government did not undertake any prior consultation with any timber exporting country before imposing the new rule. The more one considers the issue, the more it will be obvious that the Austrian action is the result of a complete misunderstanding of the tropical forest issue.

There are many who would like entire forest areas to be kept untouched. What happens to temperate forests is another matter as far as they are concerned. The fact that there can be prudent felling of timber and also ensure that there is sufficient forest cover is not grasped.

The Malaysian Government will continue to provide the facts and the truth to all right-thinking people. Hopefully, eventually the truth will prevail.

Central Bank: Economic Prospects Remain Bright

BK0910074892 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0715 GMT 9 Oct 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 9 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The prospects for the Malaysian economy in the near term remain bright with the real gross domestic product

(GDP) growth for this year expected to be close to nine percent, the Central Bank said here.

The Central Bank said its growth forecast of 8.7 percent made earlier in its annual report could well be conservative in the face of a stronger than expected performance in the first half of the year when real GDP rose by 8.8 percent.

In its latest quarterly bulletin, the Central Bank said the external stimulus to growth would be stronger than expected due to a sharp drop in imports and sustained growth in exports in the first half of this year.

"If the earlier expectations of a stronger second half materialise, then real GDP growth for the whole of 1992 could well be close to nine percent."

It said the prospects for the economy in the near term remain bright and could be attributed to the expected strong performance of the manufacturing sector, which is projected to improve further in the second half year.

At the same time, the other major sectors of the economy are also expected to expand.

Surveying the economy during the second quarter of this year, the bank said real GDP increased 8.8 per cent compared with 8.9 percent in the previous quarter and 8.2 percent in the corresponding quarter of 1991.

The strong growth was attributed to the expansion of all the major sectors, particularly the manufacturing sector which grew by 13.8 percent.

However, output growth in the agriculture, mining and services sectors moderated to 2.9 percent, 5.4 per cent and nine percent respectively.

The expansion in manufacturing output was generated by the continued growth in both export and domestic market oriented industries.

In contrast, lower growth in the value added of the agriculture sector was due entirely to the decline in palm oil production despite increases in the production of rubber and saw logs.

Cambodia

AFP Cited on KR's Blowing Up 'Key' Bridges

BK1610060292 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0414 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 16—Khmer Rouge [KR] blew up two bridges and have murdered civilians in continued defiance of pressure from the UN Security Council to disarm, United Nations official was quoted by AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE] as saying Thursday.

They said the Khmer Rouge had blown up key bridges linking northern Cambodia with the capital, while skirmishes have been reported between Khmer Rouge and Phnom Penh government forces in recent weeks.

The destruction of the bridges coincided with the passing of a Security Council resolution giving the Khmer Rouge a deadline to come back to the peace process or risk being ostracized.

The faction also appeared to be stepping up its campaign against ethnic Vietnamese immigrants, which it claims are invading soldiers in disguise. Ten decomposing corpses were found in the southwest province of Koh Kong this week, the victims of suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas, a UN spokesman said.

Elsewhere, eight more Vietnamese captives were being interrogated by a Khmer Rouge commander who accused them of being sent from Hanoi, the spokesman said.

The radical Marxist faction has so far refused to lay down its weapons and zones it controls [sentenced as received], in line with the accord that ended the 13-year civil war a year ago.

The Khmer Rouge want a substantial weakening of the Phnom Penh government and proof that all Vietnamese forces have left the country.

"The future of Cambodia is at stake," Khmer Rouge nominal Leader Khieu Samphan told reporters Wednesday, emphasizing that his group's two main demands are still preconditions for joining the peace plan.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the all-party Supreme National Council, advocates disenfranchising the Khmer Rouge if they refuse to join the peace process and take part in the election.

"Up to now there is no way to get them to join the others in the peace process, but I think that the best way would be to allow them to live their own life in their zones," he said on his return from medical treatment in Beijing Wednesday.

The latest Security Council resolution gives a joint Thai-Japanese initiative until the end of the month to get the Khmer Rouge back in line. If the attempts fail, the Security Council is to consider unspecified further action against the Khmer Rouge on November 15.

But the head of the UN peacekeeping mission in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, said on his return Wednesday from the Security Council meetings that if this "last chance" fails, there might be another involving a second Cambodian election.

The partial election, or by-election in Khmer Rouge zones, could be held after the polls next May, he said.

"Nobody wants a permanent partitioning of Cambodia", Akashi told a news conference "I do not subscribe to any impatient, muscle-flexing endeavors."

But several diplomats here, including some from the five permanent members of the Security Council, said such elections would be impractical.

"It would be a nightmare to implement," said one western diplomat who pointed to logistical difficulties.

The Thai-Japanese attempts at negotiating with the Khmer Rouge ended in deadlock last month over the faction's demand to create small committees to oversee the work of the Phnom Penh government.

"In the opinion of countries such as China, it is worthwhile to make another serious effort," Akashi said.

Beijing was the main backer of the Khmer Rouge during the 13-year civil war.

More on Destruction, Attacks

BK1610054692 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0427
GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 16—Two bridges in central Cambodia were reportedly blown up by the Khmer Rouge, cutting off the road traffic to the north.

According to the Military Coordination Commission with the United Nations, the two bridges are situated at provincial border of Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham.

In their violation of the cease-fire, the Khmer Rouge opened attacks from October 13-14 on several areas in the two provinces.

The fighting in Ksem Ksan Village, Baray District, Kompong Thom Province left one man and two children dead and seven wounded. The Khmer Rouge also robbed local population of 900,000 riels in cash, four cassette players, two television sets, one video recorder, eight bikes, 500 video tapes and a quantity of medicine.

In the attack on October 14, the Khmer Rouge destroyed Kong Chey Bridge on Road 6, set ablaze two guard huts and ruined two commune offices at Pong Ro.

On October 13, the Khmer Rouge raided Sampong Chey Commune, Kompong Cham Province, killing two policemen and two civilians and wounding 10 persons. The Khmer Rouge also seized a quantity of civilian belongings and burnt down a police station.

In the meantime, the Khmer Rouge blew up Taprok Bridge and killed one civilian in a fighting in Taprok Village.

On the same occasion, the Khmer Rouge attacked Sre Prang Village in Kompong Cham, leaving one civilian dead and seven others wounded and seizing a quantity of personal property of the local villagers.

PDK's General Speaks at 12 Oct MMWG Meeting

BK1510044192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Oct 92

["Address" by General Nuon Bunno, liaison officer of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, at the first-level meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group on 12 October—read by announcer]

[Text] My respects to General John Sanderson, commander of the peacekeeping force in Cambodia, as well as to the generals and gentlemen who are members of the Mixed Military Working Group [MMWG].

Today our MMWG is discussing the issue of entering the phase two of cease-fire and truce violations. First of all, I would like to voice my opinion concerning the stance of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] on the issue of entering phase two of the cease-fire. Our PDK's stance on all issues, including the issue of entering the second phase of cease-fire, has already been clearly reaffirmed at the 25th first-level meeting on 3 October 1992. Also, in the PDK's 22 August 1992 proposal, the issue is already clarified. And lately, His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, head of the PDK, has again reaffirmed the PDK's stance on the 22 August 1992 proposal as follows:

The PDK has put forth one proposal after another, including in particular the latest proposal dated 22 August 1992, with goodwill and a willingness to see all the provisions of the Paris accord, including the clause on the Supreme National Council [SNC] as the sole legitimate organization and source of power throughout the transition in Cambodia, fully implemented. The PDK wishes to reaffirm that, providing its 22 August 1992 proposal is duly applied, the PDK will sincerely enter phase two of the cease-fire.

As a victim of the 13-year invasion by the Vietnamese aggressors, who have wreaked havoc on the Cambodian nation and people, we need to genuinely, correctly, fully, and speedily implement the Paris accord so as to allow our Cambodian nation and people to live as an independent and peaceful nation and the people to enjoy their rights to self-determination. Our PDK, as well as other Cambodian patriotic resistance forces and the Cambodian people, has supported the Paris accord from the beginning. Now we continue to endorse the objective of the Paris accord, which aims at restoring genuine peace, independence, and national unity to Cambodia and allowing the country to rid itself of the Vietnamese aggression.

In the past 11 months and more, who has demanded the correct execution of the Paris accord and who has refused to implement the accord? What is the essence of the Paris accord?

The Paris accord clearly stipulates:

1. All categories of foreign forces, that is, the Vietnamese aggressor forces, have to withdraw from Cambodia;
2. The SNC has to fully play its role as the sole legitimate organization and source of power in Cambodia throughout the transitional period; and
3. The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the SNC have to join forces to verify the withdrawal of all Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia and their nonreturn.

These are the key conditions of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord. For more than 11 months, have these conditions been implemented? No, absolutely not.

The Paris accord unambiguously specifies that the withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia must be verified, and that Vietnam has to provide a clearly detailed report on the withdrawal and how many forces have already been withdrawn and how many are still left over; and that UNTAC and SNC have to collaborate on meticulously verifying the withdrawal. However, in its essence, the accord has not been implemented as it is supposed to have been. The Vietnamese presence has not been verified, but the assertion has been persistently made that there is no Vietnamese presence.

The SNC has had not even the smallest role to play for more than 11 months. So how many more months or years are needed to hand over the full role to SNC so as to allow it to cooperate with UNTAC to implement the Paris accord?

This is the cause of the impediment to the comprehensive implementation of the Paris accord, thereby allowing the Vietnamese aggressor forces to continue to be implanted in the Phnom Penh faction's army and among the Vietnamese settlers and disguised as ordinary people and advisers and experts within the A3 police and the Phnom Penh state authorities in the rural areas and cities. So it is imperative to implement the two key provisions of the Paris accord as indicated in our PDK's latest 22 August 1992 proposal that H.E. Khieu Samphan reaffirmed on 6 October 1992 and that I have previously mentioned.

Truce violations: Dear general, the issue of truce violations has become a routine topic due to the lack of execution of the key provisions of the Paris accord. The total withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor forces has not yet been verified and a full role has not yet been handed over to the SNC.

We have constantly expressed our opinion on this issue: What is the cause of the breaches? Does it stem from the Vietnamese aggressor forces invading Cambodia or from the people who are the victims?

Everyone knows that Vietnamese aggressor forces are implanted in the army and the A3 police of the Phnom Penh faction and among the Vietnamese settlers, who continue to flow in Cambodia at will due to the lack of

control. The Vietnamese aggressor forces have carried out all manner of activities to ruin the Cambodian people and to attack the Cambodian national resistance forces. As a matter of fact, at the end of September 1992, the Vietnamese aggressors shipped reinforcement troops to the battlefields of East Battambang and Route 10 in a bid to attack the national resistance forces in the areas south and west of Veal Chop Hill, near Chamlang Puoy, and east of Moung District. Moreover, on the battlefields across the country they have also intensified their activities, plundering the people, massacring them, and seizing their property in a cruel manner.

Given the concrete reality, we can ask: Who has breached the cease-fire? The Cambodian people have clearly seen and realized who are good and correct and who are bad and dishonest.

In order to definitely settle the issue of cease-fire violations, it is imperative that the Paris 23 October 1991 accord be correctly implemented. This means that the withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia has to be verified and the SNC entrusted with its full power so that it can fulfill its task as the unique legitimate organization and source of power in Cambodia during the transition. These measures are reasonable and correct and in keeping with the essence and spirit of the Paris accord. They have already been accepted, but why have they not been applied concretely? Thank you.

Main Body of Japanese SDF Peacekeepers Arrives

OW1410040292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct. 14 KYODO—The main contingent of Japanese engineering troops arrived in Cambodia on Wednesday to join United Nations peacekeeping operations in the war-torn country.

The first of five transport planes with about 90 Ground Self-Defense Forces (GSDF) personnel aboard landed at an airport on the outskirts of Phnom Penh shortly after 8 A.M. local time.

The four other planes carrying the remainder of the 376 personnel will arrive in the afternoon.

The five planes, provided by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), are carrying the troops from U-Ta-Pao in Thailand, where they arrived the previous day aboard chartered Japan Airlines jumbo jets from the Air Self-Defense Force's Komaki Base in Aichi Prefecture, central Japan.

A total of 75 Japanese police personnel will also arrive in Phnom Penh later in the day to join UNTAC and help maintain law and order in the country following the end of the 13-year civil war, marked by the 1991 October Paris peace accord.

The main Japanese contingent will arrive at a UNTAC transit camp on the outskirts of Phnom Penh later in the day, GSDF officials said.

On Thursday, about 120 will go to Shianouk Bill Port, south of Phnom Penh, to engage in unloading goods and construction materials from civilian and Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) ships, the officials said.

The rest of the engineering personnel will join about 220 advance GSDF members, who are constructing a base camp in Takeo about 50 kilometers south of Phnom Penh, the officials said.

The GSDF engineers will launch an operation later this month to rebuild bridges and national highways No. 2 and 3 running southward from Phnom Penh.

Meanwhile, the advance contingent has been searching for mines and unexploded shells in a former airfield in Takeo before construction of a main Japanese base there, the officials said. The troops found five unexploded shells on October 10.

The search for mines and shells will delay the completion of the construction of welfare, dining, parking and other facilities at the base, said the officials, adding the troops are scheduled to finish construction in December.

A total of 600 GSDF engineer personnel will help reconstruct Cambodia until next March as members of UNTAC, which is preparing for a general election to be held next spring.

The engineer troops will be replaced by a second contingent, scheduled to perform UNTAC peacekeeping operations until next autumn.

Indonesia

Editorial Calls Suharto UN Address Realistic

BK1510121992 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 26 Sep 92 p 4

[Editorial: "President Suharto's Emphasis at the UNGA Is Realistic"]

[Text] President Suharto's address at the UNGA [UN General Assembly] on 24 September was clear, realistic, and relevant in his mission to deliver the aspirations of the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] member countries, particularly the aspirations of the poor developing member nations.

With a sense of greater concern for current global problems, President Suharto stressed the necessity of the expansion of UN membership and a constructive review of the application of veto power. In his address, the president openly stressed the necessity of reviewing the veto power of the United States, the Republic of China, France, Britain, and Russia. The call revealed the NAM member countries' concern about the question of the

way veto power is applied. Most of the movement members considered veto power irrelevant.

We know that the provision of veto power to the five major countries was aimed at creating global peace. But the five major powers, particularly the United States, have been continuously exercising veto power to either suppress or influence other weaker countries for its own global political interest.

The 11-14 February 1945 Yalta Conference, which was presided over by three world leaders namely Russia's Joseph Stalin, the United States' F.D. Roosevelt, and Winston Churchill from Britain resulted in the birth of the United Nations and the creation of veto power. Since then, numerous nations have been constantly raising the question of the necessity of applying veto power.

We consider President Suharto's call for the expansion of UN membership and the review of the application of veto power in his address at the UNGA as a wise decision in delivering the NAM poor member countries' aspirations and interests. These poor member nations' political rights have been suppressed.

Apart from the call on the UN to restructure, revitalize, and democratize itself, President Suharto also extensively stressed the socioeconomic, foreign debt, and poverty problems which the poor member countries are facing. He cited problems such as difficulty in economic growth and the poor member countries' acute decline in economic development.

In this connection, the president stated that it was necessary for the poor member nations' foreign debts to be waived while more attractive and viable conditions for either debt repayments or new concessional loans were drawn up. The issues and proposals presented by President Suharto were considered to be realistic and rational.

As such, is it possible for the donor nations to realize that the poor member nations are currently facing very difficult times? We view this issue as important, considering the recent monetary crisis that gripped Europe and the decline of the European Economic Community's currency value. As a matter of fact, the U.S. currency value was also affected. This poses a serious threat to the developing and poor nations.

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank had recently urged the developing and poor nations not to be too dependent on foreign loans because of the recent monetary crisis in Europe. In brief, the developing and poor nations should not be overly confident on obtaining attractive loans from the developed nations.

In his address at the UNGA, President Suharto pointed out that efforts undertaken by the developing countries were difficult. But we are confident that the objective could be accomplished. On the other hand, the NAM had anticipated that the achievement could be reached through the South-South cooperation.

As Indonesians, we are proud that President Suharto delivered his address at the UNGA where he fully exposed the sentiments of the densely populated 108 member countries.

Official Issues Order To Boycott Yugoslav Ships

BK1510095492 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0922 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 15 (OANA/ANTARA)—Sea Transportation Director General Suntoro has given an instruction to port masters and port offices, shipping and non-shipping firms throughout the country to stop rendering service to ships sailing under the Yugoslav flag, said the directorate general's spokesman, Sukardi, here on Wednesday.

The decision was in materialization of the resolution no.757/1992 of the UN Security Council on sanctions against Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), he said.

The ban imposed on the Yugoslav ships include loading and unloading of import-export commodities to and from that country. The ban also covers export and imports to other countries with transshipment in Yugoslavia, except foods and medicines.

An appeal was also made by the director general to national shipping companies not to serve or be the agents of Yugoslav ships at Indonesian ports.

Indonesia, at present, has 127 seaports open for direct export purposes, thus without the mediation of one of the principal seaports like Tanjung Priok (Jakarta), Tanjung Perak (Surabaya) or Belawan (Medan).

The opening of more than 100 seaports for export purposes has enabled other foreign ships, to load and unload their export cargoes.

Philippines

Interview With Muslim Rebel Leader Nur Misuari

HK1310113992 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0556 GMT 12 Oct 92

[Telephone interview with Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front chairman, in Tripoli, Libya by Rolly Gonzalo, DZXL anchorperson, and Angelo Palmones, DZXL correspondent, at the DZXL studio, Manila—broadcast in progress, in English; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Text] [Misuari] Well, regarding that report, our agreement here is that the Congressman [Ermita] and his delegation, following our talks here in Tripoli, would report to the Office of the President and to make consultation with him and those concerned people in Manila on whether or not we could agree on the resumption of peace talks. And these peace talks, as proposed by the MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] panel

would be under, as usual, the auspices of the Islamic Conference Organization, based in Jeddah. Now, I was asked whether I was ready or prepared to go to our homeland to have talks possibly with the president, his Excellency President Fidel Ramos. I told them that, as a matter of policy, I said that if my meeting with President Ramos would give impetus to the peace process then, I said, I am ready any time. At any rate, that meeting should be preceded by the opening of formal peace talks in a neutral place to be decided upon by the parties concerned and under the auspices of the Islamic Conference Organization. That's what I told the Honorable Congressman [Ermita] and his delegation here in Tripoli.

[Palmones] Yes, sir. He told us that you want the negotiations be held at a neutral venue. What specific neutral venue, Chairman Misuari?

[Misuari] Well, regarding the neutral venue, as I said, the venue should be acceptable to the parties concerned because it is safe for them and safe also for us. And therefore, it has to be decided through consultation between the representatives of the parties concerned. And that means that the MNLF representative and the representative of the Philippine Government and, of course, the Islamic Conference Organization.

I have not named any specific place where these formal negotiations or peace talks could be held. At any rate, I think that this is just a technical problem that can be easily solved once the parties are ready and willing to negotiate for peace in Mindanao.

[Palmones] Could that neutral venue possibly be held inside the Philippines, Chairman Misuari?

[Misuari] Well, it depends upon the agreement of the parties concerned. We do not discount the possibility of meeting in a neutral place in our homeland, but it has to be agreed upon by the parties concerned, including the Islamic Conference Organization. We should also not discount the possibility of holding it outside, in a neutral venue as in the past, to be followed by possible talks between President Ramos and myself inside our homeland.

[Palmones] Chairman, how will this differ from your talks before with former President Aquino, these upcoming talks with the Ramos administration, Chairman Misuari?

[Misuari] Well, I think there will be a lot of similarities between the scenario that occurred during my meeting with the former President Corazon Aquino and the one that we are invited to have with the present government in Manila. I think there will be a lot of similarities and, therefore, there will be no difficulties in the arranging for the modalities for the holding of the peace talks.

[Palmones] Chairman Misuari, Rolly Gonzalo, the anchor, with some more points for clarification from his end. *Rolly, here's chairman Nur Misuari, directly from Tripoli, Libya.*

[Gonzalo] *Good afternoon here in the Philippines and good morning to you there in Tripoli, Libya, Chairman. This is Rolly Gonzalo, Mr. Chairman. How are you?*

[Misuari] *I'm fine, Rolly. And you?*

[Gonzalo] *We are fine. We were elated by reports that you were returning to the Philippines and ready to meet with our authorities here. That is the gist of the report brought home by Congressman Eduardo Ermita, who met with you recently. I would like to ask for more details. Have you set any conditions for your talks with Congressman Ermita, for you to come back to the Philippines, Mr. Chairman?*

[Misuari] *I gave no conditions, except that regarding possible talks between the concerned authorities in Manila and myself, I say that sure can be done, or can be arranged, any time, and we are ready to embark on this subject if such meeting would add impetus or would accelerate the peace process for the restoration of peace in Mindanao. But at any rate, I say that this has to come after the opening of formal peace talks under the auspices of the Islamic Conference Organization.*

[Gonzalo] When will that be?

[Misuari] The timing has not been agreed upon yet by the parties concerned. It has to be decided some time in the future.

[Gonzalo] *Were you able to discuss with Congressman Ermita when your next meeting will be?*

[Misuari] *The exploratory talks occurred here in Tripoli last 2 and 4 October, and were followed by informal talks on the fifth [of October], just before their departure from Tripoli. And we expect that there will be a follow-talk within two weeks following the arrival of the delegation in Manila.*

[Text] [Gonzalo] *Have you designated somebody in the Philippines to talk with the authorities on your behalf, since it is not possible for them to go Tripoli all the time to talk to you? Perhaps there is a need for you to designate a spokesman here who can talk on your behalf, Mr. Chairman.*

[Misuari] Well, you know, we have designated a third party as conveyor of information from Manila, but I cannot disclose now, because I have no authority to disclose, the third party concerned; and besides, we have also agreed that in case there is a need for urgent talks between Manila and our side here, then they could also use the other means to convey their pleasure to us.

[Gonzalo] For instance, how, Mr. Chairman?

[Misuari] Even telephone talks. If they want to convey some information to us, they can do it any time. They know how to contact us wherever we are. We have given them various addresses, telephone numbers here in the Middle East; not only here in Tripoli but in other countries as well, in the Middle East.

[Gonzalo] What you are saying, Mr. Chairman, is that the ball is in the hands of the government *with regard to when formal talks will start. It is up to the Ramos administration to set the date for the start of the formal talks.*

[Misuari] Exactly. *That is what is happening. That is what we agreed on here in Tripoli.* The ball is now in their hands. Now we are waiting for the decision of the Manila authorities.

[Gonzalo] *Did your discussions, Mr. Chairman, Chairman Misuari, include the issue of surrendering your firearms?*

[Misuari] About this issue, Rolly, absolutely, there was no talk about that. In fact, it was irrelevant. Because they did not come here to ask about this subject because it was irrelevant. *At the moment there is no need for this subject to be discussed. What we need to discuss is how we can restore peace to Mindanao. What I told them about this peace process was that we have to sit together seriously and decide, once and for all, the restoration of peace to Mindanao because I do not want Mindanao to become a battleground again. Because I don't want the people of Mindanao to suffer time and again, all because of a lack of political will to restore peace in the area.*

[Gonzalo] *Are you hoping to meet President Fidel Ramos during your next meeting, Chairman Misuari?*

[Misuari] *Well, that was the proposal of the Philippine panel, and I said we are ready to reciprocate, for as long as it will serve the cause of peace in Mindanao.*

[Gonzalo] *Can we say, Mr. Chairman, that you believe in President Ramos' administration's sincerity in seeking true peace in your area, sir, in Mindanao?*

[Misuari] Well, in so far as we are concerned, it was our observation that the Honorable Congressman Eduardo Ermita and his panel came to Tripoli with good intentions and we believe that they came here with the sincere intention to seek peace in Mindanao or to seek agreement with us for the restoration of peace, and we believe that they came here with the blessings of the president, President Fidel Ramos, and the [House] Speaker, Congressman De Venecia, and all those concerned because they know very well that without solving the problem of Mindanao, then the administration will just be like the previous ones, the administration of Marcos and the administration of Corazon Aquino. It will not be able to bring any progress, economic progress and prosperity to the country at all because they said that they realized that

without political stability in Mindanao and everywhere in the country, there can be no hope for economic recovery.

[Gonzalo] Well, Mr. Chairman, the president has just completed his first 100 days in office. *Just last week, he visited Cotabato, where he brought with him several proposed projects and programs for the people of Mindanao. Basically, what is your assessment of President Ramos' first 100 days, looking at it from an overseas standpoint?*

[Misuari] Well, so far, although we are observing the development from afar, yet we are having daily feedback from our homeland from many sources, including those from Manila, and so far there are some encouraging signs that indeed the present administration, contrary to our expectation, is trying to exert some earnestness in solving the vital problems faced by the country. And with respect to the Mindanao problem, we think that at the moment, especially following our exploratory talks here in Tripoli with Congressman Eduardo Ermita, we are convinced that they are serious in trying to solve this problem of peace in Mindanao.

[Gonzalo] And that is what is important.

[Misuari] We have to wait until the final outcome will come through the holding of peace talks between government and the Moro National Liberation Front.

[Five-second break in reception]

[Gonzalo] *Of course, I suppose that in your next meeting, Mr. chairman, the Tripoli Agreement will figure prominently. Will that be the case, Mr. Chairman?*

[Misuari] *That is correct.*

[Gonzalo] What specific points, for instance, in the Tripoli agreement *that you want implemented and which I suppose will come into play in your discussions?*

[Misuari] *That is correct, Rolly. [sentence as heard]*

[Gonzalo] *What are the specifics...?*

[Misuari, interrupting] *There are no specifics.*

[Gonzalo] Are you at liberty to mention these specific points? [sentence as heard]

[Misuari] *There are still no details because it is still exploratory. We were talking in general terms and we have to keep it that way at the moment.*

[Gonzalo] *Anyway, we have been able to confirm your willingness to return to the Philippines at any time to discuss solutions to the long-pressing problems of Mindanao. In my opinion, those in Mindanao who are listening to us this afternoon, as well as those listening to us in Metro Manila and throughout the country, are also wishing for an end to the problems of Mindanao.*

May I ask one or two questions more, Mr. Chairman?

[Misuari] Yes, yes, please feel free to ask any question.

[Gonzalo] *The elections for the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao are forthcoming. Will you have a role in them? There have been reports in the past that you will field your own candidates in the forthcoming elections for the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao.*

[Misuari] *We have no plans regarding that and we have no desire to participate in that election because the MNLF is not a party to that at all. And we believe that election can only, as in the past, can only pose as an obstacle to the peace process. So we hope that this election could be put off first while we are in this very crucial phase of the peace process. MNLF definitely will not participate in such elections.*

[Gonzalo] *All right. And finally, Mr. Chairman, we will get you to make a parting statement. I am pretty sure that the monitoring division of Malacanang is listening to us and I am sure that this report will reach President Fidel V. Ramos. It is appropriate, since the news conference at Malacanang is at 1400 [0600 GMT] today, and that will be an hour and 10 minutes from now, and I am sure the points we discussed today will also be discussed during that conference. So, Mr. Chairman, we are giving you a chance to air any message which you may have for the Ramos administration. Incidentally, this interview will be replayed this evening for the benefit of more of our audience.*

[Misuari] Well, Rolly, before I say my last words, I would like to extend my thanks, on behalf of the MNLF and people of Mindanao, to your station for your support behind the peace process, and also I would like to assure the people of Mindanao and the people in the whole Philippines of the good intentions of the Moro National Liberation Front in working for the restoration, immediate restoration, of peace in Mindanao. And also, finally, I would like to request the administration in Manila to ensure that nothing could happen between now and the opening of the formal peace talks between us. As I told the Honorable Congressman Ermita, I said that it was our sad experience that before and during the peace talks between us and the previous administration of Corazon Aquino, there were a lot of sabotage carried out by some irresponsible groups, including from the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Our liberated areas were attacked by them right at the height of our peace talks, and maybe those attacks and sabotage activities contributed toward the failure of the peace process between us and the Aquino government.

[Gonzalo] *What about on your side, could you guarantee that nobody among your group would move?*

[Misuari] Well, definitely from our side, we always uphold our commitment and we will not do anything to jeopardize the peace. In fact, we are ready to punish any group that will jeopardize the peace process because we don't want to disappoint the people of Mindanao. At the

moment, let us hope and pray that this process will reach some positive results ultimately. Thank you once again, Rolly.

Thailand

Bangkok Decides To Organize Meeting on Cambodia

BK1510122092 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Speaking to newsmen yesterday at the Foreign Ministry, Sakthip Krairoek, the Foreign Ministry's spokesman, disclosed that Thailand had decided to organize a tripartite meeting among Thailand, Japan, and the Khmer Rouge in Bangkok next week to consider ways to bring the Khmer Rouge back to the UN peace process in Cambodia, after the failure of two earlier meetings. Sakthip said the foreign minister had consulted with Sarot Chawanawirat, the deputy permanent secretary for foreign affairs, who had been away at the UN meeting in New York, on the need to come up with clear direction regarding the Khmer Rouge attitude. The tripartite meeting could take place before 21 October, the date for the delivery of the government's policy statement to the national assembly.

Fishing Firms To Form Alliance To Deal With Burma

BK0810005792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
8 Oct 92 p 26

[Text] Eight fishing companies which have been granted fishing concessions by the Burmese Government have decided to form a confederation to give them more unity in negotiating with the Burmese, Fisheries Department Director-General Plotprasop Suratwati said yesterday.

Dr Plotprasop said the fishing companies informed him of their decision during a meeting between him and company representatives yesterday.

The representatives also told him about the problems they faced fishing in Burmese waters, he said.

The eight companies were Thai Burma Enterprise, Thai Myanmar [Burma] Fishery Cooperation, Narong Canning, Pronchai Ranong, JVO Ocean Feed, Talae Thong Phatthana and Sin Phetcharatna.

The meeting was coordinated and arranged by the National Fisheries Association of Thailand and the Thai Overseas Fisheries Association, he said.

Dr Plotprasop said the formation of the confederation would contribute directly to Burma because all fishing firms would be under the same rules and regulations.

The Burmese Government could also negotiate with the confederation directly and would not need to negotiate with each individual fishing company.

He said he would visit Burma next week to pay a courtesy call on the country's new fishery chief and introduce the new director-general of the Fisheries Department, Kitcha Chaiken, to the Burmese fisher chief.

Dr Plodprasop said the representatives also asked the Fisheries Department to negotiate with the Burmese Government for the release of four Thai fishing boats which were seized for intruding into Burmese waters last month.

The representatives said the four boats had sailed into Burmese waters to take cover from an approaching storm.

The owners of the four boats—Pornchai Ranong, TMFC, Tha Burma Enterprise Co and NCC—face a US\$25,000-30,000 fine, Mr Plotprasop quoted the representatives as saying.

Burmese Soldiers Detain 7, Commandeer Boats

BK1510132792 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] According to a report by the Public Relations Department office in Mae Hong Son Province, Burmese soldiers took seven residents of Ban Huai Dua into custody today in order to use their boats to transport their colleagues, who were wounded in the clash with Karen soldiers at Ban Doi Saeng Pass. The Burmese also asked Thai officials for one additional boat. The Burmese said the seized Thai villagers are well taken care of and would be released as soon as their transport mission is completed. To sum up, to date Burmese soldiers hold 13 Thai villagers in their custody and four Thai boats.

At 1630, the police station at Ban Nam Phiang Din was instructed by the Mae Hong Son governor to move eight Burmese porters to the station for questioning before releasing them at a safe place.

Laos Said Still Dissatisfied With Robbery Probe

BK0810004792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Oct 92 p 6

[Text] The Laotian Government is still dissatisfied with the investigation of Thai police in the robbery of two million dollars from Laos in which five Thai police officers were arrested for alleged involvement, Central Investigation Bureau Commissioner Thanu Homhual said yesterday.

The CIB chief, who recently returned from Laos, was summoned to see Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut to report on developments of his investigation.

Gen Chawalit instructed him to immediately arrest the suspects.

Pol Lt-Gen Thanu said that the Laotian Government was concerned about some 100 million kips or 3.8

million baht in cash which is still missing. Laos said it considers this quite a significant sum of money.

The CIB commissioner said Thai police will this week try to arrest four other civilian accomplices who are still at large.

He said he believes that the missing money can be recovered.

Five police officers, Pol Maj-Gen Sayan Saengsayan, Pol Maj-Gen Somsak Saibua, Pol Col Somchai Phanichayakun, Pol Col Praphat Siriwa and Pol Col Bunloe Kaohangyan, have been charged with dereliction of duty and misconduct over the theft.

The commissioner expressed concern that there might be problems in coordinating Thai-Lao crime suppression activities.

Police Return More Stolen Money to Laos

BK1610043392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Oct 92 p 6

[Text] Thai police yesterday returned more of the \$2 million in Laotian government money stolen at Vientiane airport on July 28 and smuggled across the Mekong by a gang of Thai and Laotians, who included police officers.

Central Investigation Bureau [CIB] Commissioner Pol Lt-Gen Thanu Homhuan and other senior police officers went to Nong Khai yesterday to return \$136,248 to Laotian authorities.

This leaves only \$11,541 of the money intended for use in funding development projects in Laos still to be returned.

The latest batch of money returned to Laos after it was retrieved from the house of one of the civilian robbery suspects in Roi-et's Selaphum district included \$28,000 and 2,730,000 baht in cash, police said.

Laotian police chief Brig-Gen Saisompheng Sulignavong said yesterday the Laotian authorities were satisfied that all the robbed money had been returned and expected Thai-Laotian relations to now move closer following the cooperation in solving the theft.

Pol Lt-Gen Thanu said the investigation of two police generals and three police colonels suspected of involvement in the theft was now well advanced and would be concluded today after further evidence is submitted by commercial banks.

The five police officers are Pol Maj-Gen Sayan Saengsayan, Pol Maj-Gen Somsak Saibua, Pol Col Somchai Phanichayakun, Pol Col Praphat Siriwa and Pol Col Bunlu Khaobangyang. All have been charged with dereliction of duty and misconduct over the theft of the money.

Second Region Police Assistant Commissioner Pol Maj-Gen Laemthong Yanubon said the investigation into the case would be finished within 15 days and the results submitted to public prosecutors in Nong Khai, which lies across the Mekong from the Laotian capital of Vientiane.

The CIB commissioner, who is chairing the criminal investigation committee working on the case, said those robbery suspects still at large might have left the country through Malaysia.

As well as the five senior police officers, five other police officers have been arrested for involvement in the theft. They are Pol Capt Wanlop Phonyiam, Pol Lt Sa-nguan Wong-itsarachat, Pol Sgt Wirachat Wannaphrom, Pol Sgt Pricha Thammakun and Pol Lce Cpl Praphat Kemsiri.

Four civilians, suspected of conspiring with the police to steal the money, are still at large. They are Sangkom Uansimuang, Chiang Butti, Somphan Sombatbiang and Ramtian Singnontan, the latter the owner of the house where police retrieved the last of the money yesterday.

'Forward-Looking' Policy Toward SRV Discussed

BK1610035392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Oct 92 p A4

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday that changes in the world situation had prompted Thailand to pursue a new "forward looking" policy of trust and cooperation with Vietnam.

He also said he expected improved relations and cooperation between the two countries and believed both sides would be able to resolve all pending bilateral disputes.

Prasong was speaking after a meeting yesterday with his Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Manh Cam, who became the first foreign dignitary to call on him as new Thai foreign minister.

Prasong's comments on the new direction of Thai policy regarding Vietnam come against the backdrop of his long-time hardline stance against that country, particularly during his long tenure as chief of the National Security Council in the early 1980s.

At that time, Thailand strongly distrusted and feared Vietnam, seeing it as a threat to national security following its military invasion into Cambodia.

Prasong, an elected MP from Bangkok, said the regional and international situation had changed and thus "everything, be it policy or the manner of approach, should be improved according to the new situation".

He said that neither he nor the country could maintain the same old stance while the world situation had moved so far ahead.

Thailand, he said, has to be "forward looking" and pursue a policy according to the changing world environment.

"We have to be forward looking. [We have to] look at how the world situation has proceeded. And we have to pursue a diplomacy which is relevant to the entire changing situation," he said.

Prasong said he was confident that Thailand and Vietnam could strengthen and improve their ties and cooperation in all fields and would be able to resolve all pending bilateral problems and disputes based on "good understanding, sincerity and mutual benefits".

Prasong said the Vietnamese foreign minister had paid him a courtesy call to get acquainted and congratulate him as new foreign minister. Cam is on an overnight transit here en route from New York to Hanoi.

Prasong added that he and Cam did not touch on policy issues during the one-hour talk because the government will not announce its policy until next week in Parliament.

Cam, however, did inform him about Vietnam's economy and efforts to rehabilitate the country, and expressed hope that Thailand would continue to cooperate and assist Vietnam in its endeavour, said the Thai minister.

Prasong said he had reassured Cam of the Thai government's stance to develop closer relations with Vietnam and to continue to support Vietnam's attempts to revive its economy.

"I reassured [the Vietnamese foreign minister] that the new government of [Prime Minister] Chuan would continue to support warmer and closer ties [with Vietnam]. Whatever we can do to help Vietnam we are willing to do," Prasong said.

The newly elected government, in its prepared policy statement, has emphasized the importance of neighbouring countries to Thailand, and stressed bilateral and multilateral cooperation in economic, cultural, academic and human resource issues with developing countries in general.

The government also gave priority to strengthening friendly relations with all neighbours in Southeast Asia and to promote Thailand as the regional economic and financial centre.

SRV Agrees To 'Restructure' Mekong Committee

BK1610040792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Oct 92 p A4

[Text] Vietnam has indicated that it will renegotiate with Thailand the restructure of the 1957 Mekong Committee, reversing its earlier position, informed sources said.

The resumption of negotiations would end a year of bickering between Thailand and Vietnam over the future of the Mekong River and its common use by Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia.

The source said the date for a new round of talks has not yet been fixed. The issue was not brought up during talks yesterday between Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam were the original members of the committee which was formed in 1957 and functioned until 1975.

Three years later the Interim Mekong Committee was formed without Cambodia. At the end of last year, Cambodia expressed a desire to rejoin the committee.

Thailand insisted that Cambodia's return must not jeopardize the current regulations and documents used by the interim committee, while Vietnam supported the previous basic documents.

In addition, Thailand has suggested that the Mekong Committee should be expanded to include Burma and China.

It said the region has changed rapidly in the past few years and cooperation on the Mekong should cover all riparian countries.

At a recent meeting in Hong Kong, sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and attended by representatives of the four countries, Vietnam apparently agreed to a restructuring of the committee. Pending that, the procedural rules of the interim committee would be applied in governing the use of Mekong waters and tributaries, the sources said.

Chawalit Allocates Interior Ministry Duties

BK0710042992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Oct 92 p 2

[Text] Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut has finished allocating responsibilities under the ministry to his four deputies.

Gen Chawalit returned to the ministry on Monday to sign an order delegating work to the four deputy ministers.

Each minister will oversee four agencies.

Gen Chawalit himself is to oversee the work of the Police Department, the Local Administration Department, the Office of the Permanent Secretary, the Public Works Department, the National Housing Authority and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administrative Committee.

First Deputy Minister Den Tomina of the New Aspiration Party is responsible for the Public Welfare Department, the Land Department, the Metropolitan Waterworks Authority and the Provincial Waterworks Authority.

Second Deputy Minister Suthat Ngoenmoen of the Democrat Party is to oversee the Labour Skills Development Department, the Corrections Department, Office of Accelerated Rural Development and the Metropolitan Electricity Authority.

Third Deputy Minister Chamni Sakdiset of the Phalang Tham Party is responsible for the Community Development Department, the Office of Town and Country Planning, the Provincial Electricity Authority and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration.

Fourth Deputy Minister Chaowat Sutlapha of the Social Action Party is to take charge of the Labour Welfare and Protection Department, the Office of Social Security, the Expressway and Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand and the Marketing Organisation.

All 14 departmental units and organisations under the ministry should try to work as one and refrain from attaching too much importance to their own groups.

He admitted there were some differences among deputies over the assignments, but these could be readjusted later to everyone's satisfaction.

Mr Chaowat complained yesterday that he had been assigned to oversee only problem-plagued organisations.

"I can't say whether I am satisfied or not with the work I have got, but the Interior Minister may think I am young and can solve problems. That's why he has given me agencies with problems like the Expressway and Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand and the Labour Welfare and Protection Department," Mr Chaowas commented.

Opposition To Chair Key House Committees

BK0710035592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Oct 92 p A1

[Text] The Opposition will chair House committees which oversee the work of key ministries in what is seen as a first step in strengthening the parliamentary system as a mechanism to keep the administration in check.

All 11 political parties agreed yesterday to give the chairmanship of key House panels to opposition parties, Deputy House Speaker Thawin Phaison said after representatives of the parties met at Parliament.

Chat Phatthana (National Development) Party MPs will become chairmen of the House panels on agriculture, science and technology, and military and industry affairs, Thawin said.

House committees on finance and banking, justice and human rights, government policies and government budgets are among panels to be chaired by Chat Thai Party MPs.

A Muanchon Party MP will chair the House panel on communications while the Prachakon Thai Party will control the committee on tourism, according to Thawin.

The deputy House speaker said it was the first time an agreement had been reached on the House panels.

In the past, political parties were awarded the chairmanship of House panels which dealt with work related to the ministries under their control.

The chairmanship of the rest of the 23 House panels, which deal with the work of other ministries, are divided among coalition partners. Most will not be chaired by MPs from the parties which are in control of the respective ministries, according to Thawin.

However, an MP of the New Aspiration Party, which controls the Interior Ministry, will chair the House panel on local administration.

Opposition Considers Censure Possibilities

BK0910021392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Oct 92 p A4

[Text] The Opposition will censure Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri if the House rejection of the Suchinda government's controversial amnesty decree leads to legal action against the two as they faced arrest during the May crisis, the Opposition whip leader said yesterday.

Chawalit and Prasong were among 17 people for whom arrest warrants were issued at the height of the political turbulence. They allegedly led antimilitary protests which were bloodily suppressed by the armed forces between May 17 and 21.

His Majesty the King's intervention and the public backlash after the brutal crackdown forced then prime minister Suchinda Khraprayun to resign on May 24. But one day before the resignation, his government promulgated the amnesty decree absolving anybody involved in the political violence.

The House of Representatives turned down the executive decree on Wednesday, stirring up a new controversy over whether court action can now be taken against anti-military protest leaders as well as the generals who ordered the crackdown.

Pancha Kesonthong, chairman of the Opposition whip, said if lawsuits were filed against Chawalit and Prasong, the Opposition would immediately submit no-confidence motions against the two.

He said the no-confidence move would be particularly necessary in Chawalit's case because of his position as interior minister.

"He is the interior minister and what can his subordinates [police] do if he remains in the post?" said Pancha.

Chawalit, meanwhile, said he had asked police to "feel free" to take action against anybody if it is determined that the House rejection of the decree could retroactively revoke the blanket amnesty.

"I have said that nobody is above the law," he said.

The Police Department yesterday set up a committee charged with accepting complaints from those affected by the bloody May events.

The committee is based at the Metropolitan Police headquarters but lawsuits involving the May crisis could be initiated at any police station, said Police Director General Sawat Amonwiwat.

Sawat declined to discuss the sensitive question of whether the 17 blacklisted people sought by the warrants would automatically be arrested.

"We can't discuss that in detail at the moment. But so far, no warrants have been issued," the police chief said.

The Interior Ministry is seeking advice from the Juridical Council, the legal advisory body of the government, on the implications of the House decision on Wednesday.

Among the 17 is Phalang Tham de facto leader Chamlong Simuang, who spearheaded the anti-Suchinda rallies and is accused by his opponents of provoking the military crackdown for political gain.

Air Force Chief on Lawsuits Against Military

BK1110041092 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Oct 92 p A2

[Text] The lawsuits to be filed by relatives of those killed and injured in May against ex-military leaders would not upset the military in general, Air Force Commander in Chief Kan Phimanthip said yesterday.

"Even though we're worried about our friends' fate, we have to stick to the law and would not do anything incorrect," ACM [Air Chief Marshall] Kan said on Friday night during a dinner party for the air force football club at the Royal Thai Air Force Academy.

Kan said the military would not intervene in the issue and would leave the matter to the court's consideration. The air force chief is an ex-classmate of former supreme commander and air force chief Kaset Rotchananin but their relationship soured later.

"The lawsuits would not upset the military," he said.

Supreme Commander Woranat Aphichari said yesterday that some military officers might have been dissatisfied with the House's rejection of the amnesty decree which absolved those involved in the May crisis.

"That's an individual opinion, though," he said, adding that he could not say at this stage whether the decree rejection would affect the military's morale.

On Thursday, Kan, echoing Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak's comment, cautioned against any move to take legal action against the former military leaders after the overturning of the amnesty decree in the lower House.

Kan said he was worried that legal action against the generals accused of adopting heavy-handed measures to disperse the protesters would deal a heavy blow to soldiers' morale and cause political trouble for the coalition government.

But he said yesterday he would explain to his subordinates that this is the court's affair and soldiers would remain in their barracks.

Adun Kiewphoriphun, chairman of the May Heroes' Relatives Committee, has vowed to take legal action against former prime minister Suchinda Khraprayun and four other military leaders.

The four military officers are ACM Kaset, former army chief Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, former first army region commander Lt [Lieutenant General] Gen Chain-arong Nunphakdi and former interior minister ACM Anan Kalintha.

The May Heroes' Relatives Committee brings together the relatives of most of the people killed by military troops in the anti-Suchinda protests between May 17-20.

The rejection of the Suchinda government's amnesty decree is now being intensely studied by legal experts on whether legal action can be taken against parties involved in the May violence.

The government said it was seeking advice from the Juridical Council, the legal advisory of the executive branch.

Premier Chuan Likphai has said the government will review laws covering the armed forces and the administrative control of the country's defence policies.

Council Declines To Interpret Amnesty Decree

BK1510140892 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] The Juridical Council has decided to decline to interpret whether the amnesty decree has retroactive power in order to avoid the political implications. Watthana Rattanawichit, the council secretary general, explained the outcome of today's council meeting to interpret whether or not the amnesty decree, which was rejected by the parliament, has reactroactive power. The decree was submitted by the Interior Ministry for interpretation. Watthana said the meeting resolved not to make an interpretation due to subsequent political implications. However, the council will make an interpretation only if it is required to by a cabinet resolution or by the prime minister's instruction.

Chuan Plans To Depoliticize Military Lauded

BK1210023892 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Oct 92 p A6

[Editorial: "Military Should Be Receptive to Chuan's Plans on Revamp"]

[Text] "If the doctrine, strategy and tactics of the military are not in conformity with reality, its legitimacy in the management of violence can easily be challenged," says Dr Chai-anan Samutwanit and his co-authors, Dr Kusuma Sanitwong and Dr Suchit Bunbingkan, in From

Armed Suppression to Polical Offensive, written for the Institute of Security and International Studies, Chulalongkon University.

Between May 17-20, Thais of the country's silent majority, propelled by a burning desire for a fully uncorrupt democratic government free from military domination, seized the streets, business thoroughfares and the marbled Democracy Monument in Ratchadamnoen Avenue to protest and proclaim they could not endure their oppression any longer. With a scorn for risk and danger, these unarmed people braved police batons and military bullets to create an uprising so powerful it shook the comfortable base of the military elite who dominated Thailand.

With the bloody events in May now behind us, the overriding question to be asked is whether the military is a modernizing force in the country's development or is it retrogressive, with the overwhelming danger we might again be plunged into political backwardness, ironically against an economic backdrop of an almost newly industrialized country.

On Friday, civilian Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said the government will review law covering the Armed Forces and the defence ministry to ensure effective control of the country's defence policies. The premier also instructed Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak to insure the Armed forces' budgetary proposals for the 1992 Budget Bill conform with the restructuring of the military and the government's policy to boost the income and welfare of the rank and file.

Because the top leadership of the military in the past adopted a hands-on policy to domestic politics, middle-ranking officers in the field were left to take care of routine operations, resulting in the generals isolating themselves from the social and economic realities at the grassroots level.

Reviewing the laws covering the Armed Forces and the defence ministry to enable a civilian government to exert control over the military was one of the recommendations by the government-appointed commission, formed under the Anan II administration, which investigated the May crackdown. Due credit should be given to interim prime minister Anan Panyarachun's determination to dismantle the Internal Peacekeeping Force and the Capital Security command. Both were effectively dissolved on July 9 by the revocation of an executive order by which the Supreme Commander had automatic control of the Internal Peacekeeping Forces.

The commission's proposals include:

- Scrapping the Internal Peacekeeping Director Act.
- Review of the Emergency Management Act and the Martial Law Act.
- Amendment of the Ministry of Defence Government Act, particularly those clauses authorizing the use of military force to quell civilian rebellions.

In addition, the Campaign for Popular Democracy which spearheaded the May pro-democracy demonstrations has also called on the newly-elected government to amend the 1914 State of Emergency Act so only the Cabinet, and not the prime minister, is entitled to declare a state of emergency.

These legislative reforms are necessary to prevent a repetition of the painful events of the bloody political turmoil in May. The government has to ensure the Juridical Council, the legal advisory board to the executive, expedites matters by drafting bills to scrap, review and amend these pro-military laws which go against the constitutional rights of Thais. The bills would then be passed to the House of Representatives for approval.

Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut suggested the government should go as far as to audit the Armed Forces' secret funds as part of the Chuan administration's plan to overhaul the military to reflect realities in the post-Cold War environment. Taking Anan's suggestion into account, the audit committee could be chaired by the finance minister and should include representatives from the Army, Air Force and Navy, the director of the Budget Bureau and the secretary general of the National Security Council.

Profligate waste, which makes little strategic sense, prevails in recent defence purchases. In the Thai Air Force, for instance, there are 18 units of F-16 fighter jets estimated to have been bought at a staggering cost of US\$547 million, in an era where the only air threat to the country comes from obsolete American and Russian aircraft in the Vietnamese Air Force. Also, the F-16s have been bought without taking into account the Air Force's lack of adequate ground support facilities for the fighters.

The Army's purchase of 106 Stingray tanks for US\$160 million is another flagrant abuse of taxpayers' funds. According to the October issue of *Asia Inc.*, the Stingray is "a bastard cross between a tank and a self-propelled howitzer chassis." The Hong Kong based business magazine said no one else in the world had bought Stingrays because none of its parts had national stock numbers; meaning no spare parts were available from the military supply system.

The Chuan administration's policy to be presented to the House next week will also focus on adjusting the size of the Armed Forces to boost their combat efficiency. With one general in Thailand for every 428 soldiers, as stated in *Jane's Defence Weekly*, compared with one general per 4,625 soldiers in Singapore and one per 1,893 in the United States this manpower reduction certainly needs to be taken seriously. Although the military was first modernized in the 1950s it had never fought a major war. Its combat experiences had been rather limited to fighting the Korean War, the secret war in Laos, and supporting the United States in the Vietnam War. Its role since

1932, when the absolute monarchy was transformed into a constitutional one, has been involving itself in politics and business.

Apart from the people, the thinking of a majority of members of the political community in Thailand is that the military should adopt a hands-off policy when it comes to domestic politics. In a democracy, the Armed Forces should be subordinate to those chosen by the people in free and fair elections to represent the nation. Therefore the military should be receptive to Premier Chuan's efforts to introduce reforms for the sake of giving democracy a chance to flower in the country.

Vietnam

Foreign Minister's Activities in U.S. Reported

BK1010150792 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 10 Oct 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 10—While attending the 47th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam had exchanges of views in New York with representatives of the Asia Society, non-governmental organizations, the Council for External Relations, a number of businessmen.

He also met with representatives of more than 20 mass organizations which had supported the Vietnamese people in the past wars as well as in the present national construction, visited and had working sessions with the Institute of East Asia of Columbia University.

At these meetings Minister Nguyen Manh Cam highlighted Vietnam's external policy of diversifying and multilateralising relations to be friend with all countries in the world community including the United States, on the principles of respecting independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference into internal affairs of each other.

Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also met with Vietnamese residents in New York and those living in California, Connecticut, Washington, and other states.

Details of Nguyen Manh Cam Trip to Japan, Thailand

BK1510145792 Hanoi VNA in English 1428 GMT 15 Oct 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 15—Vietnam's Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam paid a working visit to Japan from Oct. 12-14 on the way home from the 47th session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

The visit was made at the invitation of Japanese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

While there Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam was received by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Speaker of the House of Representatives Sakurachi Yoshio.

He held talks with his Japanese counterpart Michio Watanabe, met with a number of Diet members, exchanged views with the ministers of Transport and Construction, and with the Director General of the National Land Agency, and had working sessions with representatives of major companies.

Foreign Minister Cam also met with the president of the Japanese Communist Party Presidium, and representatives of overseas Vietnamese.

During those meetings, the Japanese officials spoke highly of Vietnam's achievements in the current renovation process and in the implementation of its open-door foreign policy. They expressed their wish and determination to promote mutual understanding with the aim of rapidly broadening the cooperation between the two countries.

For his part, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam reiterated Vietnam's policy to attach importance to broadening cooperation with Japan on the basis of equality and mutual interest.

In the above-said talks and exchanges of views, the two sides discussed in detail the fields and orientation of their cooperation in order to quickly develop the Viet-Japanese relations.

On the way home Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam stopped over in Bangkok and met with his Thai counterpart, Prasong Sunsiri. The two ministers exchanged views on how to continue to promote the relationship between the two countries. They noted with pleasure that the Vietnam-Thailand friendship and cooperation have been consolidated and developed, especially after the visits of the two countries' leaders.

In the spirit of mutual understanding and respect for mutual interests, the two sides agreed to actively settle the outstanding problems so as to further promote relations between the two countries.

Massacre of Fishermen Protested to Cambodia's SNC

BK1610130492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] On 15 October, the Vietnamese Embassy accredited to the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia sent a note to the SNC, the State of Cambodia, and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], bringing their attention to an incident in which 12 Vietnamese fishermen have been brutally killed in Koh Kong Province in the southwestern part of Cambodia.

The note reads: The State of Cambodia Administration and some UNTAC military officers at Sihanoukville

informed the Vietnamese Consulate General there that the Khmer Rouge themselves had committed the massacre in the Choam Kralar area, Botumsakor District, Koh Kong Province. In addition, there was another report that on 5 and 7 October, the Khmer Rouge arrested and led away four Vietnamese at Svay hamlet, Cheung Kou commune, Prey Nop District, Sihanoukville.

The note emphatically says that this is yet-another barbarous act of the Khmer Rouge against Vietnamese residents. They have brazenly rekindled national hatred against Vietnam and have brazenly violated various international treaties on human rights for which Democratic Kampuchea and other Cambodian parties recently signed and pledged to respect.

New Joint Enterprise With Russia Begins Operation

BK1010110092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Yesterday in Nakhodka city of the Russian Federation, the joint Russian-Vietnamese enterprise Ha Long-Primco began operation to produce agarics for use in the food industry, as well as in manufacturing medicine.

Presently, the enterprise has a workshop in Vietnam specializing in crudely manufacturing a certain kind of seaweed—known to be instantly available in sea areas where the weather is warm—for use as a raw material in the production of agarics.

Products of this joint Russian-Vietnamese enterprise will be sold in the markets of Russia and other countries.

Construction Ministry Meets Australian Delegation

BK1010132192 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] On 27 and 28 September in Hanoi, the Ministry of Construction received and worked with a delegation from the Australian Ministry of Small Business, Construction, and Customs.

Following a speech by Minister of Construction Ngo Xuan Loc, Mr. David Beddall, Australian minister of small business, construction, and customs, gave a briefing on the achievements of the Australian small business, construction, and customs sector in recent years. He also expressed the hope of assisting Vietnam in the areas under his responsibility, especially construction.

Mr. Pham Chi Luong, briefed the Australian guests on the advantages of the Vietnamese construction sector and its guidelines for development in the days ahead, including urban development and plans for the construction of infrastructure, with priority being given to the capital of Hanoi.

Minister of Construction Ngo Xuan Loc and his Australian counterpart, His Excellency David Beddall, signed documents on future cooperation between the Vietnamese and Australian construction sectors.

Tran Duc Luong Receives Australian Delegation

BK1010124592 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Comrade Tran Duc Luong, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, on 29 September received in Hanoi a delegation from the Australian Ministry of Small Business, Construction, and Customs headed by His Excellency David Beddall, its minister. The delegation is currently on a working visit to our country.

Also attending the reception were Mr. Ngo Xuan Loc, minister of construction of Vietnam, and representatives of the Australian Embassy in our country.

Comrade Tran Duc Luong earnestly wished the delegation good health and expressed deep satisfaction at the cooperation and assistance given by Australia recently. He also briefed the delegation on the renovation process and open-door policy of Vietnam. He said:

Vietnam always wants to make friends with all countries and hopes that cooperation between the two countries in all fields—especially construction, small business, and customs—will achieve ever better results.

Economic, Commerce Delegation Visits Singapore

BK1010091392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Text] A Vietnamese economic and commerce delegation led by Comrade Le Van Triet, minister of commerce and tourism, visited Singapore from 24 to 26 September at the invitation of the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore.

On 24 September Comrade Le Van Triet was cordially received by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, first deputy prime minister of Singapore. During the reception, the two sides exchanged views and assessed bilateral trade relations since the visit to Singapore by Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet in October 1991. Both sides noted with satisfaction the rapid and magnificent development of the relations.

On the same day, Comrade Le Van Triet and His Excellency Lim Boon Heng, minister of state for trade and industry, signed a bilateral trade agreement respectively on behalf of the Vietnamese and Singapore Governments.

On 25 September at Singapore's Trade Development Department, Vietnamese businessmen exchanged views with more than 100 Singapore businessmen on the potential for mutual cooperation and trade. The businessmen of the two countries are now exchanging views to reach agreement on specific commitments.

Also taking part in the delegation's activities was Comrade Nguyen Manh Hung, our charge d'affaires in Singapore.

French Transport Minister Interview on Investment

BK1110142792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 6 Oct 92

[Report on interview with Jean-Louis Bianco, French minister of equipment, transport, and housing by unidentified QUAN DOI NHAN DAN station correspondent—announcer read]

[Summary] "When asked about France's aid and investment to Vietnam, Mr. Bianco said: France ranks third after Taiwan and Hong Kong in investment in Vietnam. France's aid was increased from 45 million francs in 1990 to 95 million francs in 1991 and 130 million francs in 1992. France regularly and positively protects Vietnam at international financial and monetary agencies by urging loans from these agencies, as well as urging the United States to lift its trade embargo against Vietnam."

During our visit, we signed two ministerial agreements on city planning and construction. Moreover, French companies signed eight cooperation contracts with their Vietnamese counterparts. "A French company signed a contract to sell two items of airport landing equipment to Vietnam. We agreed to modernize the Vietnamese airline service, including airplanes and personnel training, radar and airport facilities, and a civil airline service center in Ho Chi Minh City. Soon we will inaugurate the Paris-Hanoi air route. In addition to that, we signed many agreements on bridge construction, including bridges on the Gianh, Tan Thuan, and My Thuan Rivers. We will repair Trang Tien Bridge in Hue."

"We also discussed issues on city transportation in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi. We will construct a pilot bus route in Hanoi. And I will suggest that French major ports such as Marseille dredge Haiphong Port."

"Answering a question about France's participation in the modernization of the national railway service line between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Minister Bianco said: We reached three decisions to set up a plant for railway line repairing, to study the possibility of building an autobahn, and to seek international financial assistance to Vietnam."

The allocation of capital investment for the development of railway, land, and sea transport will be decided by the Vietnamese Government. French specialists will help with the planning. He also said that France's financial contribution to projects in Vietnam will be 250 million francs.

"Finally, Mr. Bianco said that he holds very good impressions of Vietnam and its people and he is optimistic about France-Vietnam relations."

Trade With France Said To Double in Six Months*BK1210100292 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 12 Oct 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 12—In the first six months of this year, trade value between France and Vietnam doubled compared with the same period last year thanks to the increase of French exports.

The economic representative of the French Embassy in Hanoi said that the total trade value between the two countries in the first six months of this year was 781 million francs compared with 298 million francs (U.S.\$59.6 million) in the same period last year.

France's exports to Vietnam rose from 200 million francs (U.S.\$40 million) in the first 6 months of 1991 to 578 million francs (U.S.\$115.6 million) in corresponding period this year. France's share in Vietnam's imports rose from 5.08 to 12.11.

Also in this period, Vietnam's exports to France increased from 103 to 376 million francs (from U.S.\$20.6 million to 75.2 million).

Under newly signed major contracts France exported to Vietnam products of founding [as received] valued at 198 million francs or U.S.\$39.6 million, and sold to Vietnam an airliner.

Vietnam's farm products exported to France increased 77, occupying 40 of export value to France, shoe export occupied 20 up by 6 times. [sentence as received] Last year, the European Community (mainly France and Germany) became the fifth biggest partner of Vietnam after Singapore, Japan, Hong Kong and Russia.

Report on Party Conferences Held in Provinces*BK1010085192*

[Editorial Report] Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese at 0500 GMT on 1 October and at 1100 GMT on 3 October carry reports on conferences held by the party committees in Song Be and Tien Giang Provinces to study the party Central Committee Third Plenum Resolution and to formulate plans of action for its implementation.

Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese at 0500 GMT on 1 October carries a one-minute report saying that "the Song Be provincial party committee has convened a conference of key cadres to study the party Central Committee Third Plenum Resolution and to formulate three practical plans of action for the period from now until 1993 aimed at revamping party organizations, consolidating national defense and security, and broadening external economic relations. As immediate objectives for the period from now until the end of the year, the Song Be provincial party organization has instructed two districts, two villages, and two agencies to conduct pilot programs aimed at resolving once and for

all those problems concerning internal unity so as to enhance the party's militancy. Regarding the struggle against corruption and negativism, the province will clarify a number of cases involving illegal logging and land disputes which have caused discontent among the people."

Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese at 1100 GMT on 3 October carries a one-minute report saying that "to date, Tien Giang Province has made arrangements for more than 2,300 key cadres in charge of bureaus, sectors, and mass organizations; military officers; retired cadres; and cadres in charge at the district level and in My Tho City to study the party Central Committee Third Plenum Resolution. As a result, leading cadres have unanimously concurred with the party's assessment of the national and international situations, national defense and security arrangements, and the need to revamp party organizations. All sectors and localities have formulated practical programs of action to successfully implement socioeconomic development tasks for 1992 and to build pure, firm primary party organizations capable of guiding everyone in satisfactorily fulfilling all tasks."

Assembly Issues Resolution on People's Court Law*BK1310051492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Oct 92*

[Text] The National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

—Pursuant to Article 84 of the SRV Constitution,

—At the recommendation of the National Assembly Standing

Committee,

Hereby decides:

1. That the 1992 law on the organization of people's courts passed by the SRV National Assembly on 6 Oct 1992 will go into effect, beginning on the day of promulgation.

2. To assign the National Assembly Standing Committee the duty of issuing a regulation governing the statutes for judges and jurors of people's courts by June 1993 at the latest.

3. That pending a regulation on the statutes for judges and jurors of people's courts, the following procedures for appointment, release from duty, and dismissal of judges of people's courts at various levels shall be applied:

—As for the judges of the Supreme People's Court, the chief justice of the Supreme People's Court shall submit his proposal to the president of the state for a decision,

—With regard to the judges of local people's courts, the minister of justice shall, after reaching a consensus with the chief justice of the Supreme People's Court, submit his proposal to the president of the state for a decision.

—Regarding the judges of military courts of various military regions or at the corresponding level—e.g. regional military courts—the minister of justice shall, after reaching a consensus with the minister of national defense and the chief justice of the Supreme People's Court, submit his proposal to the president of the state for a decision.

4. All incumbent judges at various courts shall continue to perform their duties until the president of the state appoints judges for courts at various levels in accordance with stipulations in Article 38 of the law on the organization of people's courts and with a regulation on the statutes for judges and jurors of people's courts.

5. The transfer of the task regarding enforcement of a court verdict from people's courts at various levels to governmental agencies shall be completed by June 1993 at the latest. Pending the transfer, the people's courts at various levels shall continue to carry out this task.

This resolution was passed by the First Session of the Ninth SRV National Assembly on 6 October 1992.

[Signed] Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the National Assembly

Politburo Member Visits Television Center

BK1010144592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Oct 92

[Text] Comrade Vu Oanh, Political Bureau member in charge of the Party Central Committee's Mass Motivation Work, has held a working session with the Audio-Video and Television Center for Humanitarian Purposes to review past propaganda activities for humanitarian purposes.

Vinh Quang Le, director of the center, briefed the comrade on the center's activities and its efforts to produce daily humanitarian television programs for broadcast over Vietnam Television.

Comrade Vu Oanh highly appraised the television programs for humanitarian purposes over Vietnam Television.

On behalf of the party and the state, the comrade commended and hailed the center's efforts and the humanitarian activities of various echelons, sectors, and units. He also urged various echelons, sectors, and localities to pay more attention to promoting charity work and spreading propaganda on the popular movement for charity work.

Phan Van Khai, Vu Oanh Attend Meeting 10 Oct

BK1210140992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Oct 92

[Text] Today, the Vietnam Gardeners Association held its second national congress in Hanoi with the participation of 121 delegates representing more than 80,000 members from 43 cities and provinces. Attending the congress were Comrade Phan Van Khai, member of the party Political Bureau and deputy prime minister; Vu Oanh, member of the party Political Bureau; Ha Dang, director of the party Culture and Ideology Department; and ministers and deputy ministers of agriculture and food industry, marine products, education, and training. The representatives of other departments, sectors, mass organizations, and some international organizations also attended the congress.

The congress report stated that the gardening economy has made an important contribution to the stabilization and improvement of peasants' life. It has changed the face of rural areas, created more jobs for working people, and helped the diversification and upgrading of the intensive cultivation level of our agriculture.

However, the gardening economy still has some problems that need to be solved quickly. Its production is still unstable and scattered. Policies to encourage the gardening economy have not been supplemented. Processing and marketing of gardening products have not been appropriate.

Speaking at the congress, Comrades Phan Van Khai and Vu Oanh hailed the development of the gardening economy in the country and practical activities of the Vietnam Gardeners Association in the past. They all stressed that the gardening economy only develops well when it links with peasants. Therefore, the association should coordinate with ministries to improve peasants' gardening knowledge. It should concentrate on improving gardens, developing the gardening economy in all localities, and providing practical assistance to peasants by introducing biological techniques and new methods for restoring and processing gardening products. It should cooperate with related sectors to solve problems in marketing, loans, and land use.

The congress elected a new Executive Committee with Comrade Nguyen Ngoc Trieu elected as chairman of the association.

NHAN DAN Calls Corruption Dangerous Epidemic

BK1010160592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Oct 92

[Text] NHAN DAN today [6 October] carries an article by Huong Xuan under the Current Topic Column entitled: "An Extremely Dangerous Epidemic." The article says:

It is common knowledge that dangerous epidemics such as cholera, the plague and tuberculosis can claim the lives of tens of thousands of people. We have, however, had an effective cure for them. Of late, a new epidemic called AIDS has emerged and research is being done to find a cure for it.

There is an extremely dangerous epidemic which has left serious consequences in many countries including Vietnam, namely the corruption epidemic.

In recent years, the corruption epidemic has spread very fast in many localities, sectors, and echelons, especially in certain high echelons. This has become a disaster to the nation.

Is there any cure for this disease? Yes, there is. There are many very effective cures as well as many talented physicians with excellent treatment skills. These physicians are none other than the people, the mass media, and revolutionary cadres known for their diligence, thrift, integrity, righteousness, public dedication, and indifference.

Responsible organs should ask these physicians for a prescription. Medicine has a bitter taste but only when it is bitter can the disease be effectively cured.

The public is praising Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet for uncompromisingly advocating the fight against the scourges of corruption, smuggling, and wasteful spending in a bid to create a wholesome environment for the implementation of various socioeconomic tasks, and more importantly, to restore the people's trust in the state. This was from a speech he delivered at the National Assembly on 1 Oct 1992.

It is the people's earnest desire to see one's speech match one's deeds.

First-Ever Foreign Trade Surplus Achieved

BK1610153992 Hanoi VNA in English 0653 GMT 14 Oct 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA 14 Oct—In the first nine months of this year, for the first time Vietnam achieved a surplus in foreign trade.

By September 1992, Vietnam had earned 1,670 million USD from exports, up 17.5 percent compared with the same period last year. Imports in the same period valued at 1,520 million USD, a 91 percent increase over last year.

In the third quarter, export turnover was 642 million USD, a monthly increase of 25 percent compared with the average in the first half-year.

Vietnam is aiming at an export turnover of 2,500 million USD in 1992, one third of which will come from the export of 4 million tonnes of crude oil.

In the past nine months 1,250,000 tonnes of rice were exported, up 11 percent compared with the same period

last year. In the third quarter, the amount of rice exported accounted for 80 percent of the two previous quarters.

It is anticipated that rice export for the whole year will be from 1.6 to 1.8 million tonnes. Economists predict that 2 million tonnes is not beyond reach in this year.

In the first nine months about one million tonnes of anthracite was exported, almost the quantity for the whole 1991 and 35 percent more than the same period last year. Total coal export is expected to reach 1.4 million tonnes.

Export value of some other goods is also on the rise, rubber by 21 percent, tin by 58 percent, coffee by percent [no figure as received] and marine products by 8.2 percent.

In the first nine months of this year, the garment industry recorded 68.3 million USD worth of export.

Imported goods consisted chiefly of equipment, materials and consumer goods. Imports have met the people's demands for petrol, iron and steel, fertilizer and chemicals. 24.3 percent compared with the first nine months of last year, steel 208,000 tonnes, up 8.9 percent, insecticide 5 million USD, up 5.6 percent, and caustic soda 15,000 tonnes, up 200 percent. [sentence as received]

Hanoi Mobilizes Investment Capital for Development

BK1610141992 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT 16 Oct 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 16—The capital city of Hanoi is embarking on a programme of mobilising investment capital for its economic-social development.

This programme calls for the mobilisation of at least 1.5 billion US dollars from now to the year 2000. For the 1991-95 period, the city is supposed to draw 600-700 million dollars for this purpose. This means a lot more than what the city was able to garner for its development projects between 1986 and 1990, which was estimated at around 120 million dollars.

One of the main sources the city is expected to draw from is the potential value of the land. On average, one square metre of land in downtown Hanoi now costs around one tael of gold, and like in any other major urban centre in the world, the price of land here keeps increasing steadily. So it is clear from this that Hanoi could afford in part the cost of its economic development with the value of the land it has to lease to the business circles.

The state has already ratified a masterplan for Hanoi's urban development. On the basis of this plan, the municipal authorities have set aside plots of land for leasing to organisations and individuals for the construction of representative offices or stores. It has been made known that everyone and every organisation can engage in the

real estate business, that the city will give priority to those businessmen and trading companies willing to make investments to rent land in fashionable quarters. The city is proceeding with the relocation of administrative offices and ineffective businesses to give room to more efficient and profitable undertakings. These units can transfer the right to use the land they no longer want in return for money to develop their productive activities.

The municipal authorities are also negotiating to get back the many villas in Hanoi which have long been granted to public employees for use as living quarters. The tenants will move out to new residential quarters after getting proper compensations for the transfer.

Regulations have been and will continue to be issued specifying how a plot of land is rented and at what rental rate, how the right to use it can be transferred, as well as the privileges and obligations of investors in renting land. It is hoped that with new favourable conditions set for land rental, the capital city of Hanoi will attract more and more investments for its development into a major economic, cultural and administrative centre of the whole country.

Weekly Flights at Tan Son Nhat Airport Increase

BK1010152792 Hanoi VNA in English 1433 GMT 10 Oct 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 10—Since early this year, three more flight routes linking Ho Chi Minh City and Hongkong, Singapore and Taipei have been opened. These have increased the number of flights to and from Tan Son Nhat airport from 40 to 98 each week. The most frequent route is the Ho Chi Minh City-Bangkok-Ho Chi Minh City with 26 weekly flights. The Ho Chi Minh City-Taipei-Ho Chi Minh City route is second with 20 flights.

According to the weekly Saigon Times, 15 carriers have opened regular flights to Ho Chi Minh City. On the Ho Chi Minh City-Hongkong route there are two operators, namely Cathay Pacific and Air Hongkong (cargo carrier) and on the Ho Chi Minh City-Taipei route there are also two carriers, Mandarin and Eva Air. As such, in the Asia-Pacific region, Vietnam lacks only some air routes to Tokyo, Seoul and Beijing.

Downing of First B-52 Aircraft Recounted

BK1010085392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 16 Sep 92

[Duong Duy Hieu's report on the downing of the first B-52 aircraft in Vinh Linh, North Vietnam, on 17 September 1967 by the Ha Long Missile Unit]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] After a few days of preparation, equipment and ammunition of the 84th Battalion were all set at Combat Position No. T-3 near Production Team No. 6 of the Quyet Thang State Farm. It was

raining heavily. For three or four consecutive days and nights, Nguyen Van Kich, the battalion political commissar, and men under his charge, took turns bailing water out of their tunnel. If they stopped for a while, the water would be waist-deep. Nguyen Ba Vien, a spotter, was sick but still willing to help. At one time, he was so tired he passed out. Nobody, however, gave up, being determined to do everything to shoot down B-52's.

They spent many days and nights undergoing combat readiness training and had missed several chances of intercepting B-52's. As they became more experienced, a new opportunity presented itself. The rain was very heavy on the afternoon of 17 September 1967. The sky was covered with dark clouds. All combat units were put on level-one alert and the upper echelon warned everyone of the appearance of B-52's at a time when the second and third units were working feverishly to protect equipment from being waterlogged. Meanwhile, at their control post, Nguyen Van Lan, Tran Hoang Thinh, and Pham Van Ngoan—all spotters—and their commanding officer, Minh Hy, were focussing their attention on the radar screen. At 1700, personnel from an observation post along Route 74 sent a message saying that they had detected the sounds of F-102 aircraft engines coming from the east and eastwestern directions [as heard]. Combat personnel were all holding their breaths, waiting for what was going to happen. The appearance of F-102 aircraft was a sure indication of B-52 attacks. Lan, Thinh, and Ngoan hurriedly reported: B-52's, group of three, angle 180 minus 120 degrees, very clear signal.

It seemed as if everyone's heartbeats had stopped from the great excitement. The enemy aircraft which had perpetrated countless barbarous crimes against their compatriots and comrades, as well as against the nation and people, was now appearing right before their eyes. They flew in at slow speed as if they were entering no-man's land.

Political Commissar Kich and Battalion Commander Phien reminded everyone of the need to remain calm and closely track the target. At last, after so much excitement, losses, and efforts, today they had the chance to intercept B-52's. Lan, Thinh, and Ngoan—the spotters—closely monitored the movement of the lead B-52 aircraft as it was flying into the death zone. Acting like their fathers and forefathers, they were luring the enemy into the ambush zone. Battalion Commander Phien gave the order to launch two missiles at a 10-second interval. Never before had that combat group comprising Hy, Lan, Thinh, and Ngoan remained so calm as they were now. They aimed the first missile directly at the enemy aircraft and guided it to the target. Then they all were shouting as the missile hit the target and exploded. Everything appeared clearly on the radar screen. The target had been destroyed!

That is the story about the downing of the first B-52 aircraft by the 84th Battalion of the Ha Long Missile Unit. The event took place at 1705 on 17 September 1967. [passage omitted]

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